

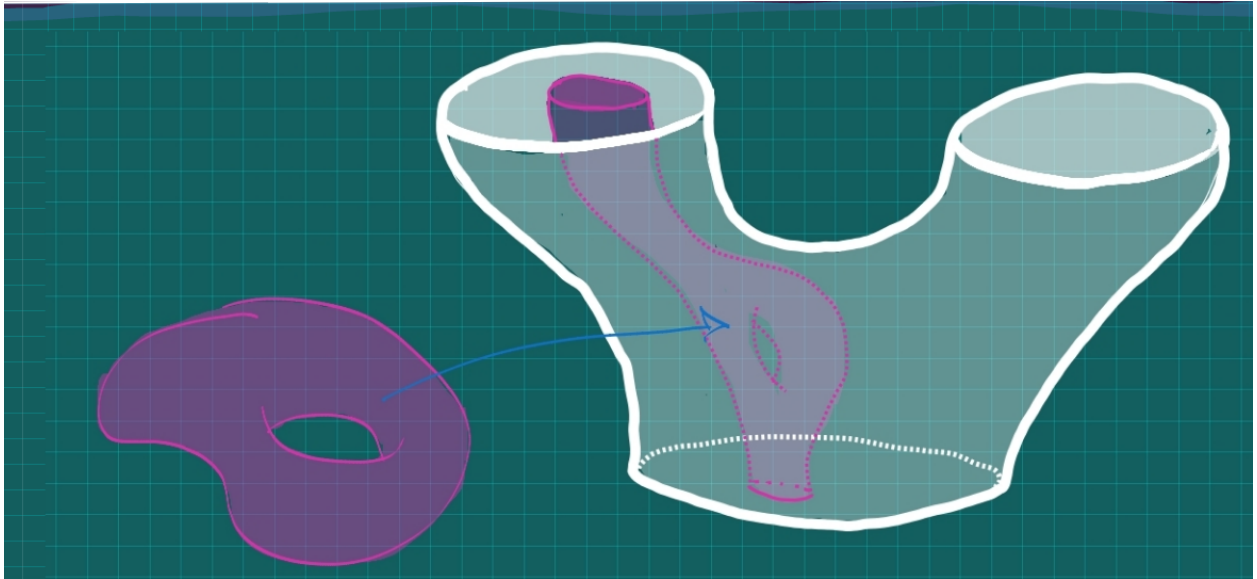
# Reading Seminar: J-Holomorphic Curves, Section 3.3

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# 1 | Goal: The Gromov-Witten Invariants

## ⚠ Warning 1.0.1

These are extremely rough and imprecise notes taken for a reading seminar. They're very likely full of mistakes and misunderstandings, so please use at your own risk.

**Remark 1.0.2:** Our long-term goal: define the **Gromov-Witten** invariants of (say) a symplectic 4-manifold, i.e. a complex symplectic surface. These will be notated something like  $\text{GW}(M, A, g, n)$ , where

- $(M, \omega, J)$  is a symplectic manifold with an almost-complex structure  $J$ ,
- $A \in H_2(M; \mathbb{Z})$  is a fixed homology class,
- $g, n$  denote the genus and number of marked points of a complex curve (Riemann surface)  $\Sigma_{g,n}$  we're mapping into  $M$ .

The point of these invariants is to take some kind of enumerative count of rigid complex curves ( $J$ -holomorphic curves) embedded into  $M$ , up to some notion of isomorphism so that we can make this a finite count. The  $J$ -holomorphic condition is essentially that these curves are in the kernel of some differential operator that generalizes the usual Cauchy-Riemann equations from 1-dimensional complex analysis. The actual count will be the number of curves that are homologically equivalent to the fixed class  $A$ .

The rough program is to form some moduli space of curves, "rigidify" it enough to get it to be a finite-dimensional smooth manifold, and try to relate the curve count to the dimension of the moduli space. We'll then relate that dimension to the analytic *index* of a Cauchy-Riemann operator  $D$ , and use a mix of analysis, topology, and algebraic geometry to compute this index (either by computing kernels/cokernels directly or relating them to other invariants like integrals, Chern classes, etc).

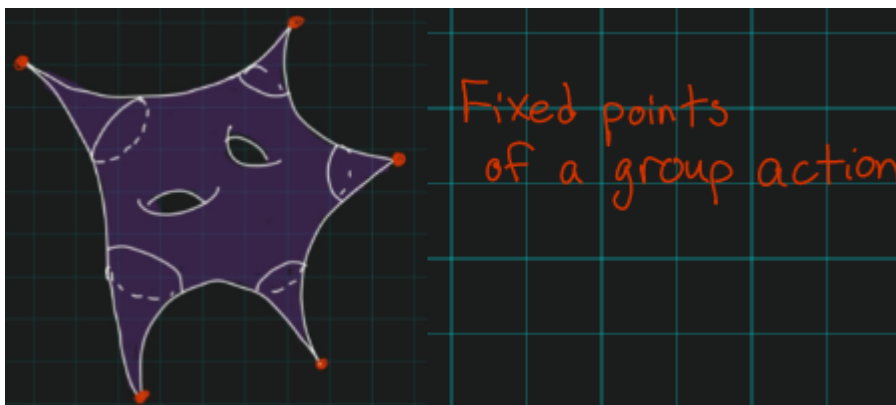
*Note: I'll be writing  $\text{Sym}^n(X)$  everywhere for convenience, but I don't know if this is true on the nose – in the older literature these maps are all defined to land in  $M^{\times n}$  instead.*

**Remark 1.0.3:** Fix  $M, A, J, g, n$ . We'll define  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(A, J)$  to be the moduli space of embedded  $J$ -holomorphic curves  $\Sigma \xrightarrow{f} M$  with  $[\Sigma] = [A]$  in  $H_2(M; \mathbb{Z})$  where  $g(\Sigma) = g$  and  $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n] \in \text{Sym}^n \Sigma$  is a collection of  $n$  (distinct?) marked points.

**Remark 1.0.4:** There is a well-studied moduli space  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$ , the moduli space of curves, which shows up in a thousand different guises with a thousand different names. It is a very good space that a lot of people like. We'll define it here to be the moduli space of **stable** embedded curves  $\Sigma \hookrightarrow M$  with  $g(\Sigma) = g$  where again  $\Sigma$  carries  $n$  marked points. The stability condition is something we'll cover later.

In full generality,  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  is a smooth Deligne-Mumford stack – i.e. a somewhat complicated algebro-geometric object. One slogan that may be helpful: the category of schemes isn't closed under quotients, but schemes embed into stacks and stacks are closed under taking quotients. So you might think of a stack as the quotient of a scheme by a non-free group action, where you might even take an algebraic group instead of just a Lie group or something. A Deligne-Mumford stack will just be a stack that is stratified by quotient stacks.

**Remark 1.0.5:** It may be helpful to think of  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  as a complex *orbifold*. As a first approximation, an *orbifold* is just a manifold with some exceptional collection of singular “orbifold points”, which are the fixed points of some group action. Here's the cartoon I usually have in mind:



For genus  $g = 0$ ,  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{0,n}$  will be a smooth compact complex manifold of finite dimension, so we can run arguments from smooth/differential topology if we just map in  $J$ -holomorphic spheres.

**Definition 1.0.6** (Gromov-Witten invariants, preliminary definition)  
There are two natural maps floating around:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(A, J) & & \\
 \downarrow \pi: \text{Forget } A, J & \searrow \text{ev}_1, \text{ev}_2, \dots, \text{ev}_n & \\
 \overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n} & & \text{Sym}^n(X)
 \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

The evaluation maps  $\text{ev}_j$  are coming from the fact that every point in the moduli space upstairs carries the data of an embedding  $f: \Sigma_{g,n} \hookrightarrow M$ , and if  $x_i$  is a marked point we can just push it forward and look at  $f(x_i) \subseteq M$ . So morally speaking, the GW invariants will be defined as

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{GW}(M, A, g, n) : H^*(M; \mathbb{Q})^{\otimes n} \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} H^*(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}; \mathbb{Q}) &\rightarrow \mathbb{Q} \\
 (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \otimes \beta &\mapsto \int_{\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(A, J)} \prod_{j=1}^n \text{ev}_j^*(\alpha_j) \smile \pi^*(\beta^{\text{PD}}),
 \end{aligned}$$

where here the product denotes the  $n$ -fold cup product in (say, singular) cohomology.

**Remark 1.0.7:** The output will be the number of embedded  $J$ -holomorphic curves  $\Sigma$

- Where  $g(\Sigma) = g$
- With  $n$  marked points  $x_i$
- Where  $x_i$  intersects a cycle  $X_i \subseteq H_2(M; \mathbb{Q})$
- Where  $X_i$  is dual to  $\alpha_i$
- Where  $[\pi(\Sigma)] = [\beta] \in H_2(\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n})$ .

So roughly the number of curves representing the homology class  $\beta$ , and we get it by “integrating over the moduli space” in the sense of capping against a fundamental class.

### ⚠ Warning 1.0.8

This description is partially a cartoon! It will work in certain special cases, but  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}$  doesn't have an honest fundamental class in general to integrate against. Some hard work of e.g. Fantechi constructs a “virtual fundamental class” that (I think) more faithfully captures this idea.

**Example 1.0.9 (Uses):** GW invariants can be used to get at classical enumerative problems. For example, we can compute the number of lines in  $\mathbb{P}^3(\mathbb{C})$  intersecting 4 generic lines as

$$\text{GW}_{L,4}^{\mathbb{P}^3}(c^2, c^2, c^2, c^2) = 2.$$

**Remark 1.0.10:** The GW invariants will only depend on the **deformation type** of  $(M, \omega)$ . In particular, we'll be able to take 1-parameter families of symplectic manifolds constructed by cooking up paths

$$\begin{aligned}
 \gamma : I &\rightarrow \Omega^2(M) \\
 t &\mapsto \omega_t,
 \end{aligned}$$

all of which will have the same GW invariants, provided we start with *semipositive* symplectic manifolds and choose these paths carefully. Morally, this is moving the manifolds  $(M, \omega)$  around in the moduli space, just in a controlled way (along semipositive families) as opposed to just wiggling in an  $\varepsilon$  ball in  $\overline{\mathcal{M}}_{g,n}(A, J)$ .

**Remark 1.0.11:** A remarkable (and hard?) theorem is that in real dimension 4, the GW invariants only depend on the *diffeomorphism type* of the manifold, and can detect non-diffeomorphic smooth manifolds. They are also equal to the Seiberg-Witten invariants in this dimension. This is not a general phenomenon though – there are counterexamples in dimension 6 where neither of these statements hold.

**Remark 1.0.12:** The later chapters of the book discuss some applications to other topics. I'll just relay the words here, in case anything is meaningful to you all, since I don't know much about them yet myself:

- For  $g = 0$ , GW is related to quantum cohomology and Frobenius manifolds. There is some theorem about proving the associativity in quantum cohomology.
- There is *some* way to produce a TQFT in this setting as well, and lots of people like these.
- Mirror symmetry is supposed to give a 2nd way to compute these invariants. I think the symplectic side covered here corresponds to the “A side”, and conjecturally there is a “B side” mirror with the same GW invariants. The book is a little old now, so I don't know how conjectural this still is.

## 2 | Ch. 3: Moduli Spaces and Transversality

**Remark 2.0.1:** Our goal for this chapter: show that for a general  $J$ , the moduli space  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, J)$  is a smooth complex manifold of finite dimension. The asterisk here corresponds to taking only *simple curves* – this doesn't seem to be a necessary condition, but is meant to make transversality arguments simpler. Here's a rough outline of the sections:

- 3.1: Defines the moduli space of simple curves
- 3.2: Discusses Thom-Smale transversality, and shows that  $\mathcal{M}^*$  is a smooth manifold when the (linearized) Cauchy-Riemann operator  $D$  is surjective for all  $J$ -holomorphic curves.
- 3.3 (today): Discusses examples of **regularity** in dimension 4, along with some sufficient conditions to determine if your favorite almost complex structure  $J$  is sufficiently regular. The usual proofs lean on things like the Sard-Smale theorem, but here we'll use some AG techniques like the Riemann-Roch theorem to check these conditions.
- 3.4: Discusses moduli spaces with pointwise constraints.

**Remark 2.0.2:** Some structures to recall from Han's talks:

- $(M, \omega, J)$  will be a  $2n$ -dimensional symplectic manifold, with  $\omega \in \Omega^2(M)$  a symplectic form,  $J$  an  $\omega$ -tame almost-complex structure on  $M$ , so  $J \in \text{End}(TM)$  with  $J^2 = -\text{id}$ .
- $(\Sigma, j_\Sigma, dV)$  will be a Riemann surface with an almost-complex structure and  $dV$  its volume form. Note that in dimension 2, all almost-complex structures are *integrable* in the sense that they come from an honest complex structure, so we'll always think of  $j_\Sigma$  as an actual complex structure.
  - The Cauchy-Riemann operator  $\bar{\partial}_J \approx \frac{1}{2}(Jd - dj_\sigma)$ , where I'm being **very** loose with this definition! Just recall that (exercise) the usual Cauchy-Riemann equations can be generalized by  $dJ - Jd = 0$  where  $J$  is the standard complex structure on  $\mathbb{C}^n$ , and here we just allow the two complex structures to vary in the domain/codomain.
  - Also  $\ker \bar{\partial}_J$  are precisely the  $J$ -holomorphic curves, so solutions to this generalized Cauchy-Riemann equation.
- $u \in C^\infty(\Sigma, M)$  will be a smooth map representing a solution. Note that we wanted Sobolev completions to some  $W^{k,p}$  in order to apply PDE theory to  $u$ . In particular, we'll want the linearized  $\bar{\partial}_J$  to be a Fredholm operator so that it has a well-defined index

$$\text{ind}(D) := \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \ker(D) - \dim_{\mathbb{R}} \text{coker}(D).$$

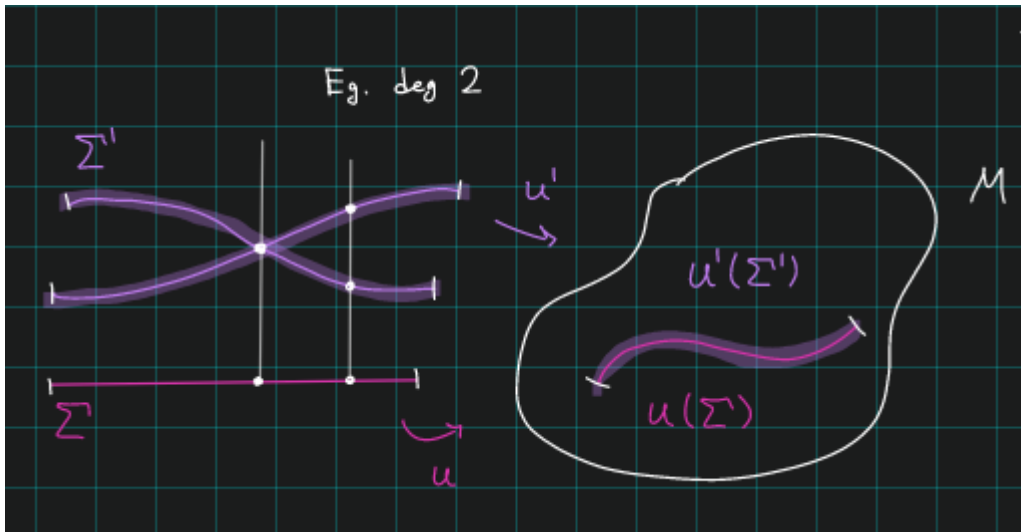
These are supposed to be like “operators that are invertible up to finite-dimensional noise”, and such operators (and their indices) are stable under small perturbations.

- $\mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, J)$  will be  $u \in C^\infty(\Sigma, M) \cap \ker \bar{\partial}_J$  with  $[u(\Sigma)] = A \in H_2(M; \mathbb{Z})$  and  $u$  a **simple** curve.
  - Simple curves are defined by the following condition: a curve  $u : \Sigma \rightarrow M$  is *not simple* iff there exists a branched cover  $\tilde{\Sigma} \rightarrow \Sigma$  of degree  $d \geq 2$  and an embedding  $\tilde{u} : \tilde{\Sigma} \rightarrow M$  making the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \tilde{\Sigma} & & \\
 \downarrow \text{branched} & \searrow \tilde{u} & \\
 \text{deg } d \geq 2 & & M \\
 \Sigma & \xrightarrow{u} & 
 \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

This is the condition that  $\Sigma$  doesn't factor through a ramified curve, here's a cartoon for a non-simple curve where  $d = 2$ :



Here they both have the same image, so represent the same embedded curve, but  $\tilde{\Sigma}$  has a branch point over  $\Sigma$  near the center. Non-simple curves will correspond to orbifold points in  $\mathcal{M}(A, \Sigma, J)$ , and the theorem is that simple curves are generic in this moduli space.

- We've pulled back the tangent bundle of  $M$  in the following way:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 u^*TM & \dashrightarrow & TM \\
 \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\
 \Sigma & \longrightarrow & M
 \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

- We've constructed a bundle with a global section?

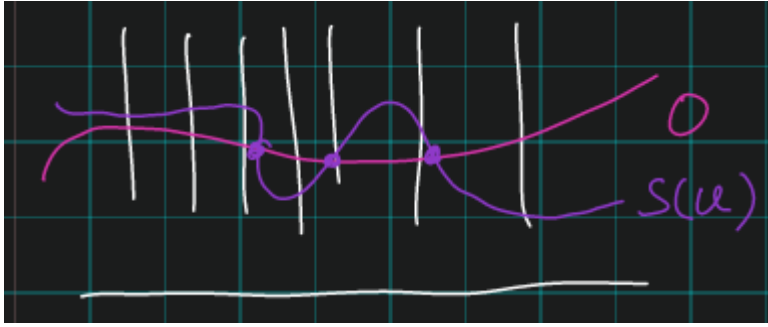
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{E}_u := \Omega^{0,1}(\Sigma, u^*TM) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{E} \\
 & & \downarrow \\
 & & B := \{u \in C^\infty(\Sigma, M) \mid [u(\Sigma)] = A\}
 \end{array}$$

$s(u) := (u, \bar{\partial}_J(u))$

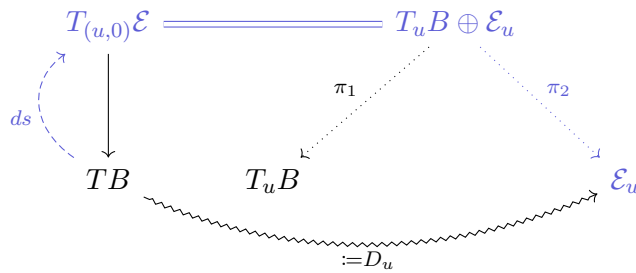
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Our moduli space  $\mathcal{M}(A, \Sigma, J)$  will be the zero section of this bundle, and we'll obtain  $\mathcal{M}^*$  by intersecting the base space with the solutions  $u$  that are **somewhere injective**. It seems like we'll somehow need to perturb sections to get them to be transverse to the zero section:





- Given  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow B$ , we've taken tangent spaces of everything and cooked up a map  $D_u : TB \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_u$ :



[Link to Diagram](#)

This could be identified as a map

$$D_u : \Omega^0(\Sigma; u^*TM) \rightarrow \Omega^{0,1}(\Sigma, u^*TM).$$

- By Riemann-Roch, we identified

$$\text{Ind}(D_u) = n(2 - 2g(\Sigma)) + 2c_1(u^*TM),$$

which roughly comes from taking the Euler characteristic of Dolbeault cohomology  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^*(u^*TM)$ , which ultimately came from the differential on global sections

$$\bar{\partial} : \Gamma(\Omega^{p,q}) \rightarrow \Gamma(\Omega^{p,q+1}).$$

- We wanted to allow varying the almost-complex structure  $J$ , so we defined  $\mathcal{J}^\ell$  be all  $J \in C^\ell(TM, TM)$  which were  $\ell$  times continuously differentiable, where we equip this space with the smooth topology.
- We enlarged the moduli space to a *universal moduli space*  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, \mathcal{J}^\ell)$  which fibers over  $\mathcal{J}^\ell$ :

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, \mathcal{J}^\ell) \\ \downarrow \pi \\ \mathcal{J}^\ell \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

- The upshot was that  $\pi^{-1}(J) = \mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, J)$  is our original moduli space, and we can apply the implicit function theorem for (infinite-dimensional) Banach manifolds to conclude this is a finite-dimensional submanifold.
- Somehow we also show that  $T_{(u,0)}\mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, J) = \ker D_u$ .
- We also use the Sard-Smale theorem to show that in  $\mathcal{J}^\ell$ , the regular values of  $\pi^{-1}$  are Baire 2nd category (a countable intersection of open dense sets), so “generic” in an appropriate sense.
  - Useful example:  $\mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$  is 1st category but the irrationals are 2nd category.

## 2.1 3.3: Regularity

### Definition 2.1.1 (Regular)

In light of the previous discussion, we’ll say that  $J$  is **regular** for  $A$  iff  $D_u$  is surjective for all  $u \in \mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, J)$  where the  $J$  is fixed. A point  $p := (u, J) \in \mathcal{M}^*$  will be a **regular point** iff  $T_p\mathcal{M}^* \xrightarrow{d\pi_p} T_{\pi(p)}\mathcal{J}$  is surjective, where now we let  $J$  vary in  $\mathcal{J}$ .

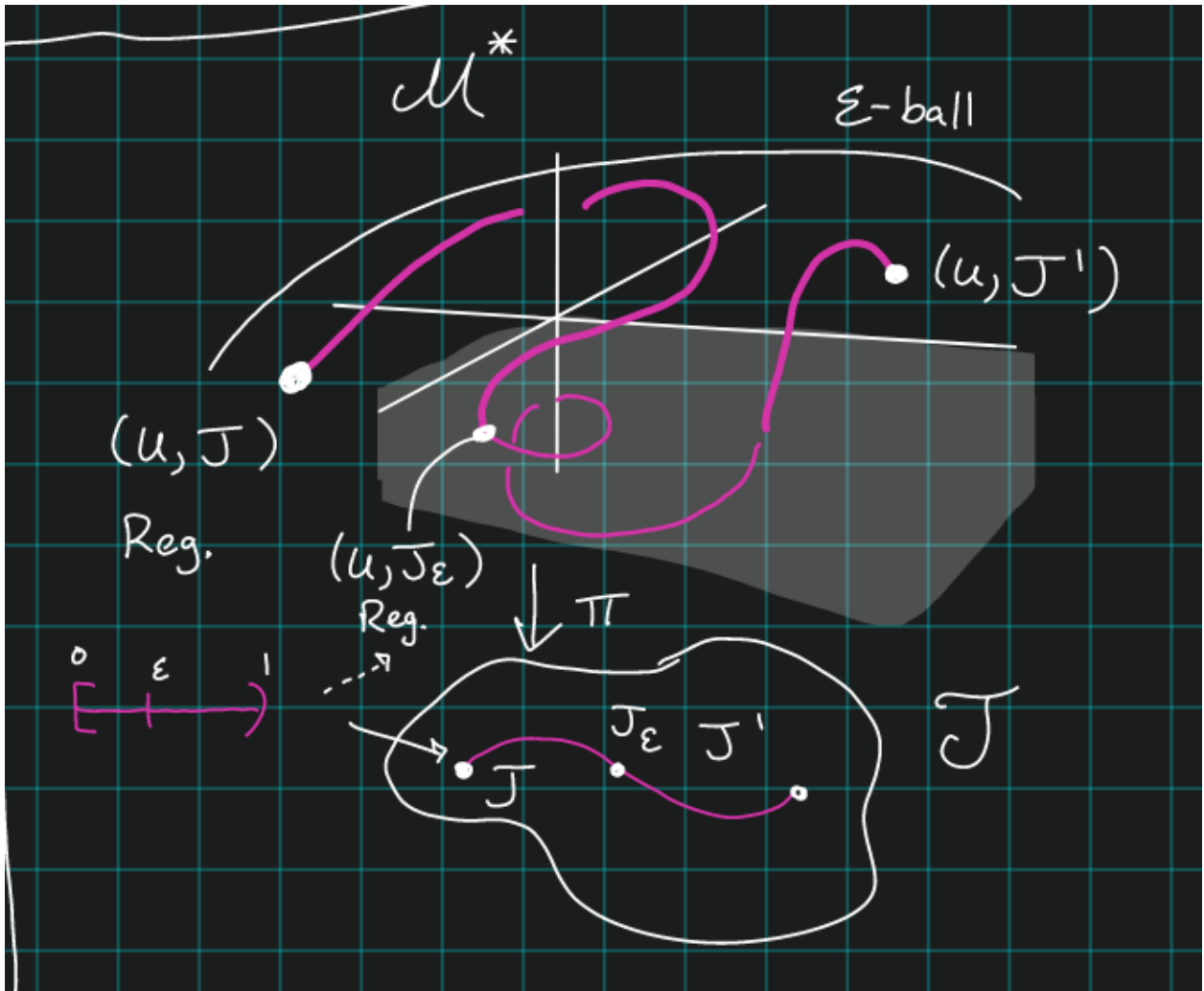
**Remark 2.1.2:** Recall that  $\mathcal{J}$  is the space of all almost-complex structures on  $M$ . A consequence of regularity is that any smooth one-parameter family  $[0, 1] \rightarrow \mathcal{J}$  can be  $\varepsilon$ -lifted in the sense that there is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, \mathcal{J}) & \\
 & \nearrow \exists \tilde{\gamma} & \downarrow \pi \\
 [0, \varepsilon] & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & \mathcal{J} \\
 \\ 
 0 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & J \\
 t & & J_t
 \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

*Note: here I just mean  $\gamma(0) = J$  and  $\gamma(t) := J_t$ .*

Moreover if  $(u, J)$  is regular, then the lifts  $(u, J_t)$  along the path upstairs will still be regular nearby:



So although we can't freely perturb regular values in the moduli space, we can take one-parameter families  $J_t$  in  $\mathcal{J}$  as “controlled deformations” of almost-complex structures and lift them to controlled deformations upstairs.

**⚠ Warning 2.1.3**

If the point  $(u, J)$  is *not* regular, then there may not be any nearby regular points in the universal moduli space  $\mathcal{M}^*(A, \Sigma, \mathcal{J})$ .

## 2.2 Overview of Main Theorems

**Remark 2.2.1:** The two main theorems of this section describe sufficient conditions for regularity and how to produce a regular almost-complex structure.

**Theorem 2.2.2 (3.3.4).**

Let  $g(\Sigma) = 0$  and  $\dim_{\mathbb{R}} M = 4$ , and consider the  $J$ -holomorphically embedded sphere  $(\Sigma, j_{\Sigma}) \hookrightarrow (M^4, J)$ . Letting  $p := \Sigma^2 := \Sigma \cdot \Sigma$  be the self-intersection number of  $\Sigma$ , then  $J$  is regular for  $A := [\Sigma]$  if and only if  $p \geq -1$ .

**Theorem 2.2.3 (3.3.5).**

Let  $\tilde{A} := [S^2 \times \text{pt}]$  as a class in  $H_2(\tilde{M}; \mathbb{Z})$  where  $\tilde{M} := S^2 \times M$ . Then for all  $J \in \mathcal{J}(M, \omega)$ , the almost-complex structure  $\tilde{J} := i \times J$  is regular for  $\tilde{A}$ , where  $i$  is the standard complex structure on  $S^2$ .

**Remark 2.2.4:** The following is a summary of the other lemmas in this chapter, which are useful on their own but also used to prove the above two theorems.

- 3.3.1: If  $J$  is integrable and  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \xrightarrow{u} M$ , then  $u^*TM = \oplus L_k$  decomposes as a sum of line bundles and  $J$  is regular iff  $c_1(L_k) \geq -1$  for all  $k$ , where  $c_1$  denotes the Chern number.
- 3.3.2: If  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$  is *any* bundle, not just  $u^*TM$ , and there exists a decomposition  $\mathcal{E} = \oplus L_k$  into line bundles, and if  $D : \Omega^0(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1; \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \Omega^{0,1}(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1; \mathcal{E})$  is any  $\mathbb{R}$ -linear Cauchy-Riemann operator that preserves the decomposition in the sense that  $D(L_k) \subseteq L_k$  for all  $k$ , then  $D_u$  is surjective iff  $c_1(L_k) \geq -1$  for all  $k$ .
- 3.3.3: If  $(M, \omega, J)$  is any 4-dimensional symplectic manifold and  $J$  is any almost-complex structure (not necessarily integrable) and  $u : \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1 \rightarrow M$  is an *immersed*  $J$ -holomorphic sphere, then  $D_u$  is surjective if  $c_1(u^*TM) \geq 1$ .

The rest of the section involves examples and constructions.

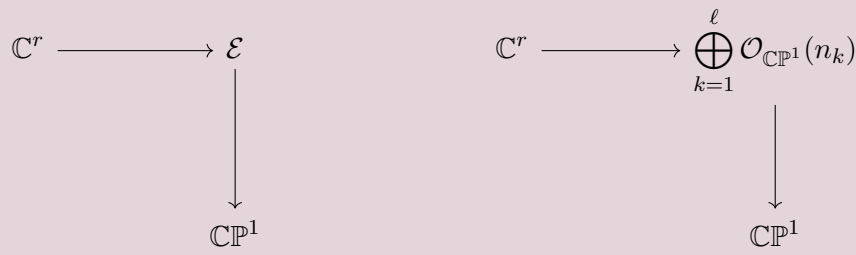
## 3 | 3.3: Regularity Calculations

**Remark 3.0.1:** Fix  $\Sigma := \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1$ , which is homeomorphic to  $S^2$ . For notation, we'll write  $c_1(L) := \langle c_1(L), [\Sigma] \rangle$  for  $L$  a line bundle. where we're using the intersection pairing

$$\langle -, - \rangle : H^2(M; \mathbb{Q}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Q}} H_2(M; \mathbb{Q}) \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}.$$

**Theorem 3.0.2 (Splitting Principle (Grothendieck)).**

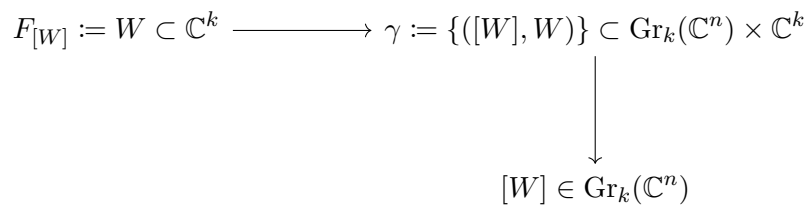
Every complex holomorphic line bundle of rank  $r$  over  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}_1$  decomposes uniquely into a direct sum of line bundles:



[Link to Diagram](#)

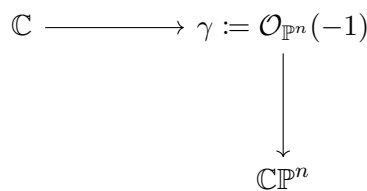
These bundles are holomorphically isomorphic.

**Remark 3.0.3:** AG break:  $\mathcal{O}_X(a_k)$  needs some explanation! If  $\mathcal{O}_X$  is the structure sheaf (so regular functions), then  $\mathcal{O}(n) := \mathcal{O}(1)^{\otimes n}$ , and  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  will be the **Serre twisting sheaf**, sometimes referred to as the **hyperplane bundle**. To describe this, note that we first have a tautological bundle over the Grassmannian over  $\mathbb{C}^n$  where the fiber over a point (corresponding to a subspace  $V$ ) is  $V$  itself regarded as a subset of  $\mathbb{C}^k \subseteq \mathbb{C}^n$ .



[Link to Diagram](#)

Taking  $k = 1$ , we can identify  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n := \text{Gr}_1(\mathbb{C}^{n+1})$  as the space of lines in  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$  to get the **tautological line bundle** which defines  $\mathcal{O}(-1)$ :



[Link to Diagram](#)

Note that the fiber above a line is just the line itself. This lets us get  $\mathcal{O}(-k)$  for any  $k$ ; to get positive numbers just define  $\mathcal{O}(1) := \mathcal{O}(-1)^\vee$  as the dual bundle, where you replace each fiber  $F$  with its dual space  $F^\vee := \text{Hom}(F, \mathbb{C})$  as a vector space.

**Remark 3.0.4:** Upshot: these are relatively simple building blocks, just tensor powers and duals of an object where nothing too mysterious is going on. Moreover, for us,  $u^*TM = L_1 \oplus L_2$  breaks up as *some* sum of line bundles – it doesn't actually matter which twists they are for our purposes.

### 3.1 Lemma 3.3.1

#### Lemma 3.1.1 (3.3.1).

If  $u^*TM \cong \bigoplus_{k=1}^{\ell} L_k$  and  $c_1(L_k) \geq 1$  for every  $k$ , then  $D_u$  is surjective.

**Remark 3.1.2:** To prove this, we'll need an analytic version of Riemann-Roch:

#### Theorem 3.1.3 (Riemann-Roch, Append C.1.10, Part 3).

If  $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \Sigma$  is a holomorphic bundle and  $F \leq \mathcal{E}$  is a sub-bundle, then  $D_u$  is surjective iff

$$\mu(\mathcal{E}, F) + 2\chi(\Sigma) > 0,$$

where  $\mu(-, -)$  is a **relative Maslov index**. Moreover, taking  $F = \emptyset$ , if  $\partial\Sigma = \emptyset$  then there is a formula

$$\mu(\mathcal{E}) := \mu(\mathcal{E}, \emptyset) = 2\langle c_1(\mathcal{E}), [\Sigma] \rangle.$$

### 3.2 Proof using Riemann-Roch

*Proof (of Lemma, using Riemann-Roch).*

We'll first need that since  $\Sigma$  is a sphere, we know its cohomology ring:

$$H^*(S^2; \mathbb{Z}) \cong \mathbb{Z}[x]/\langle x^2 \rangle \quad \text{where } |x| = 2,$$

which is only supported in degrees  $d = 0, 2$ . So

$$\chi(\Sigma) = 1 - 0 + 1 = 2.$$

*Note that you could also just check this cellularly:  $S^2$  has a CW complex structure with one 0-cell and one 2-cell, and you can compute  $\chi$  using just the ranks of cellular chain groups instead of homology.*

Strategy: take the LHS appearing in the RR formula above, we'll try to show it's positive.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(u^*TM) + 2\chi(\Sigma) &= \mu(u^*TM) + 4 \\ &= \mu\left(\bigoplus_{k=1}^{\ell} L_k\right) + 4 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\ell} \mu(L_k) + 4 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^{\ell} 2c_1(L_k) + 4, \end{aligned}$$

and thus

$$2 \sum_{k=1}^{\ell} c_1(L_k) + 4 > 0$$

$$\iff \sum_{k=1}^{\ell} c_1(L_k) > -2.$$

Since the rank of  $u^*TM$  is at least 2, there are at least 2 summands. So if every  $c_1(L_k) > -1$ , this inequality holds, and that is sufficient for  $D_u$  to be surjective. ■

### 3.3 Proof using AG/Chern Classes

*Proof (of lemma, using complex analytic arguments).*

Since  $J$  is assumed integrable,  $D_u = \bar{\partial}_J$  coincides with the Dolbeault derivative determined by the complex structure on  $M$ , and  $D_u$  respects the splitting  $u^*TM \cong \bigoplus L_k$ . We want to show  $D_u$  is surjective, so it thus suffices to show  $\text{coker } \bar{\partial}_J = 0$ , where it's worth recalling a nice identification:

$$\text{coker} \left( A \xrightarrow{f} B \right) \cong B / \text{im } A.$$

The actual definition is taking a pushout against the terminal object in your category:

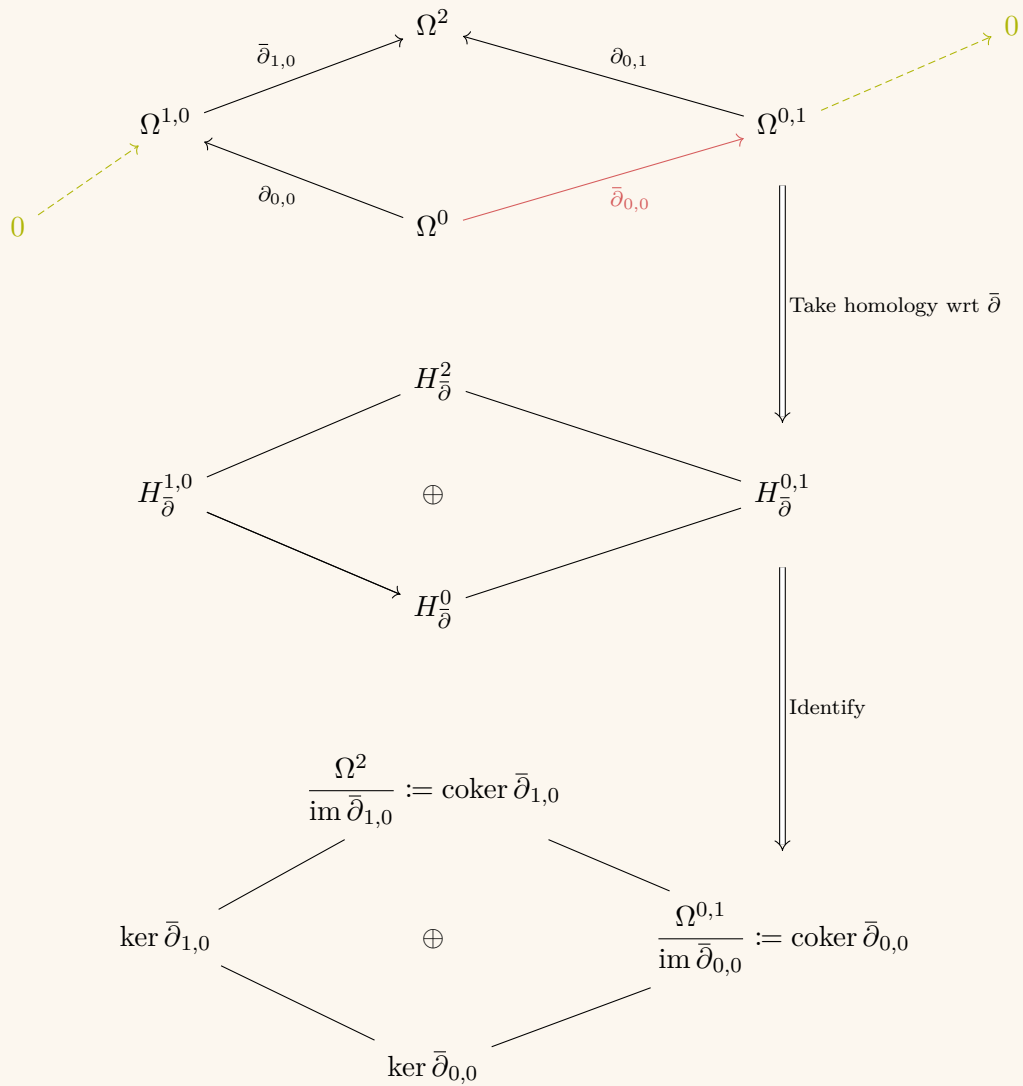
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow \\ B & \longrightarrow & \text{coker } f := B \amalg_A 1 \end{array}$$

[Link to Diagram](#)

We can identify this as

$$\text{coker}(\Omega^0(\Sigma; L) \xrightarrow{D_u = \bar{\partial}_J} \Omega^{0,1}(\Sigma; L)) := H_{\bar{\partial}_J}^{0,1}(\Sigma; L).$$

The last equality is not so obvious, but follows if you think about how this splits out in the Hodge diamond:



[Link to Diagram](#)

The main thing to notice is that one is taking the homology with respect to  $\bar{\partial}$ , so the bottom-right corner of the diamond just forms a 2-term chain complex and we get a kernel/cokernel pair.

So now it suffices to show that  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,1}(\Sigma; L) = 0$  (for  $L := L_k$  any of the bundle summands) whenever  $c_1(L_k) \geq 1$  for all  $L_k$ . We'll need a definition:

**Definition (Canonical Bundle)**

Let  $\Omega_{\Sigma}^1$  be the bundle of holomorphic 1-forms on  $\Sigma$ . Then the **canonical bundle** is defined as

$$K_{\Sigma} := \bigwedge^{\dim \Sigma} \Omega_{\Sigma}^1 = \Omega_{\Sigma}^2,$$

which here coincides with the bundle of holomorphic 2-forms. It is sometimes written as  $\omega_{\Sigma}$



We can now apply **Kodaira-Serre duality**:

$$H_{\bar{\partial}}^{0,1}(\Sigma; L) \simeq H_{\bar{\partial}}^{1,0}(\Sigma; L^{\vee} \otimes K_{\Sigma})^{\vee},$$

where notably we've switched from antiholomorphic forms to holomorphic forms.

We'll also need **Kodaira vanishing**: If  $\mathcal{L} \rightarrow \Sigma$  is a *positive* holomorphic line bundle, then

$$H^i(\Sigma; \mathcal{L} \otimes K_{\Sigma}) = 0 \quad \forall i > 0.$$

The book justifies the uses of this theorem here by saying  $c_1(\mathcal{L})$  can be interpreted as the self-intersection number of the zero section, and mumbles something about “positivity of intersections”. I'm not really sure why this works!

A related fact (maybe a consequence?) is that  $\mathcal{L}$  has nonzero holomorphic sections  $\iff c_1(\mathcal{L}) \geq 0$ , so maybe positivity is related to positivity of Chern numbers.

Now setting  $\mathcal{L} := L^{\vee} \otimes K_{\Sigma}$ , playing around with the logic we find that if  $c_1(\mathcal{L}) < 0$  then  $\mathcal{L}$  has *no* holomorphic sections, and for reasons unknown, this should imply that  $H_{\bar{\partial}}^{1,0}(\Sigma; \mathcal{L})^{\vee} = 0$  and conclude the proof. In any case, let's just compute the Chern number:

$$\begin{aligned} c_1(\mathcal{L}) &= c_1(L^{\vee}) + c_1(K_{\Sigma}) \\ &= c_1(L^{\vee}) - c_1(T\Sigma) \\ &= c_1(L^{\vee}) - e_1(TS^1) && \text{since } c_1 \text{ is a top class} \\ &= c_1(L^{\vee}) + (1 + (-1)^2) && \text{by a well-known formula for spheres} \\ &= c_1(L^{\vee}) - 2 \\ &= -c_1(L) - 2. \end{aligned}$$

So now unwinding things, we have

$$\begin{aligned} c_1(\mathcal{L}) < 0 &\iff -c_1(L) - 2 < 0 \\ &\iff -c_1(L) < 2 \\ &\iff c_1(L) > -2 \\ &\iff c_1(L) \geq -1. \end{aligned}$$

which is exactly the condition appearing in the lemma. Running this same argument for every  $L_k$  concludes the proof! ■

**Remark 3.3.2:** Note that we've used some special facts in that last calculation:

- Using that  $L^{\vee} \cong L^{-1}$  for line bundles,  $c_1(L^{\vee}) = c_1(L^{-1}) = -c_1(L)$ .
- I don't think  $c_1(A \otimes B) = c_1(A) + c_1(B)$  in general, this must be special for  $B = K$  the canonical.
- $c_1(K_X) = -c_1(TX)$  is a general fact, for complex manifolds at least. Apparently this is

obvious from Chern-Weil theory, but you can also use

$$c_1(TX) = c_1(\det TX) := c_1\left(\bigwedge^{\text{top}} TX\right) := c_1(K_X^\vee) = c_1(K_X^{-1}) = -c_1(K_X).$$

- The top Chern class is always the Euler class (almost by definition) when it makes sense. 