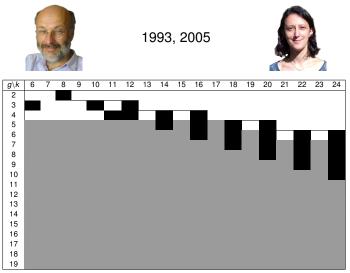
Cohomology of moduli spaces of curves

Sam Payne UT Austin

Intercontinental Moduli and Algebraic Geometry Zoominar May 1, 2023

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The first two unstable classes

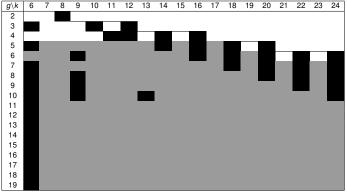


 $H^{4g-k}(\mathcal{M}_g)$

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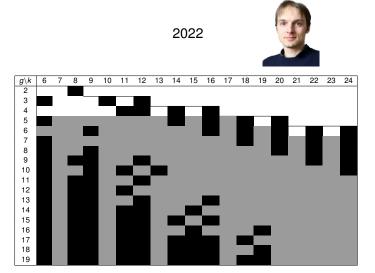
An infinite family of unstable classes





 $H^{4g-k}(\mathcal{M}_g)$

More infinite families



 $H^{4g-k}(\mathcal{M}_g)$

An open problem

Theorem (P-Willwacher 2023)

 $\dim_{\mathbb{Q}} H^{4g-k}(\mathcal{M}_g)$ grows at least exponentially with *g* for each $6 \le k \le 59$ except possibly for $k \in \{7, 10, 13, 26, 57\}$.

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Conjecture

The dimension of $H^{4g-k}(\mathcal{M}_g)$ grows at least exponentially with g for all but finitely many non-negative integers k.

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Question Does $H^{4g-7}(\mathcal{M}_g) = 0$ for all g?