

MODULI OF CURVES IN LOW GENUS AND RELATED TOPICS

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It is aim of the course to introduce several perspectives on the geometry of some moduli spaces of curves in the case of low genus: moduli of curves, moduli of spin curves, Prym moduli spaces. The main focus will be on families of rational curves on these moduli spaces and on the related questions concerning their uniruledness, rational connectedness, unirationality, rationality. The transition, from moduli having negative Kodaira dimension to moduli of general type, when the genus grows up, will be also studied. There will be some emphasis on effective geometric constructions and examples, so to approach concretely the birational geometry of moduli spaces of curves. The study of the low genus cases will also give the opportunity for connecting the general subject of moduli of curves to its classical roots and to its historical evolution.

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