

# Brill - Noether Theory for Cubic Fourfolds pretalk

Asher Auel (Dartmouth)

# Cubic fourfolds

Hodge theory  
Birational Geometry  
Derived category

# K3 Surfaces

←  
Projective models

# Curves

# Cubic Fourfolds

$X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^5$  smooth cubic hypersurface

$\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{P}\left(H^0(\mathbb{P}^5, \mathcal{O}(3))\right)/\mathrm{PGL}_6$  coarse moduli space

Hodge diamond

			1	
	0	0		
	0	1	0	
	0	0	0	0
0	1	21	1	0
0	0	0	0	
0	1	0		
0	0			
			1	

$$H^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cong \langle 1 \rangle^{\oplus 21} \oplus \langle -1 \rangle^{\oplus 2}$$

Integral polarized weight 4 Hodge structure  
with distinguished class  $h^2 \in H^{2,2}(X)$

## Torelli theorem (Voisin)

IPTHS on  $H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})$  recovers  $X$  up to isomorphism

$$\mathcal{C} \hookrightarrow \Gamma \backslash D$$

# Algebraic Cohomology

$$\begin{aligned} CH^i(X) &\longrightarrow H^{2i}(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cap H^{i,i}(X) \quad \text{cycle class map} \\ [Z] &\longmapsto cl([Z]) \end{aligned}$$

Hodge Conjecture  $\times$  smooth projective /  $\mathbb{C}$

$$CH^i(X) \otimes \mathbb{Q} \longrightarrow H^{2i}(X, \mathbb{Q}) \cap H^{i,i}(X)$$

(Conte / Murre / Zucker) True for rationally connected 4-folds

# Integral Hodge Conjecture

$$CH^i(X) \longrightarrow H^{2i}(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cap H^{i,i}(X)$$

(Atiyah-Hirzebruch, Totaro, Kollar, ...) counterexamples

(Voisin) True for cubic fourfolds!

$$CH^2(X) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cap H^{2,2}(X) =: A(X)$$

$A(X)$  is positive definite lattice with  $h^2 \in A(X)$

**Fact**  $A(X) = \mathbb{Z} h^2$  for  $X$  very general

# K3 Surfaces

$S$  smooth projective surface with  $\omega_S \cong \mathcal{O}_S$   
and  $H^1(X, \mathcal{O}_X) = 0$  i.e.  $S$  not abelian surface

Hodge diamond

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & 1 \\ & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 20 & 1 \\ & 0 & 0 \\ & & 1 \end{array}$$

$$\text{Pic}(S) = CH^1(S) \xrightarrow{\sim} H^2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \cap H^{1,1}(S) \quad \text{Lefschetz (1,1)}$$

**Fact**  $\text{Pic}(S) = \mathbb{Z}H$ ,  $H$  ample, for very general  $S$

$H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})$  signature  $(3, 19)$  unimodular even lattice

Integral polarized weight 2 Hodge structure

## Torelli Theorem

IPHS on  $H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})$  recovers  $S$  up to isomorphism

## Moduli Spaces $d \geq 2$ even

$\mathcal{M}_d$  moduli space of polarized K3 surfaces  
of degree  $d$  i.e. objects are

$(S, H)$ ,  $S$  K3,  $H \in \text{Pic } S$  primitive,  $H \cdot H = d$   
ample

# From Cubic Fourfolds to K3s

$X$  cubic fourfold with  $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} A(X) > 1$

then  $\langle h^2, T \rangle \subseteq A(X)$  primitive sublattice  $\text{rk } 2$

(Hassett) let  $d = \text{disc } \langle h^2, T \rangle$ . If  $4 \nmid d, 9 \nmid d, \sum_{p=1}^{p=1(3)} p \nmid d$   
then

$\langle h^2, T \rangle^\perp \cong \langle H \rangle^\perp_{\pm 1}$  for some polarized K3  
 $(S, H)$  of degree  $d$

$$H^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) \quad H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})$$

Get embedding of moduli spaces

$$\mathcal{P}_d^{\text{max}} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{K}_d$$

# From K3s to Curves

$(S, H)$  polarized K3 of degree  $d = 2g - 2$

$$S \xrightarrow{|H|} \mathbb{P}^g$$

$$C = S \cap \mathbb{P}^{g-1} \xrightarrow{|K_C|} \mathbb{P}^{g-1}$$

Hyperplane sections of projective models of K3 surfaces are canonical curves.

$C \in |H|$  general is smooth proj. curve genus  $g$ .  
and  $H|_C = K_C$

# Example

$X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^5$  cubic fourfold containing  
disjoint planes  $P_1, P_2 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^5$

$$P_1 = \{x_0 = x_1 = x_2 = 0\}, P_2 = \{x_3 = x_4 = x_5 = 0\}$$

then we can write

$$X = \{F_1 + F_2 = 0\} \quad F_1, F_2 \text{ homogeneous forms on } P_1 \times P_2 \text{ of bi-degree (1,2) and (2,1)}$$

Have a birational map

$$\mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_2 \dashrightarrow X$$

$p_1, p_2 \mapsto$  third point on line through  $p_1, p_2$

Indecomposable locus

$$S = \{F_1 = F_2 = 0\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}_1 \times \mathbb{P}_2$$

Complete intersection of bidegree  $(1,2)$  and  $(2,1)$  in  $\mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^2$

Adjunction  $\Rightarrow$   $S$  is a K3 surface

$$S \subseteq \mathbb{P}^2 \times \mathbb{P}^2 \xrightarrow{\text{Segre}} \mathbb{P}^8 \quad \text{defines degree 14 polarization}$$
$$H \in \text{Pic } S$$

$X$  very general  $\Rightarrow \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} A(X) = 3$  and  
 $\text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Pic } S = 2$

$A(X)$	$h^2$	$P_1$	$P_2$
$h^2$	3	1	1
$P_1$	1	3	0
$P_2$	1	0	3

$\text{Pic } S$	$H$	$L = \mathcal{O}(0,1) _S$
$H$	14	7
$L$	7	2

and  $\langle h^2, P_1 \rangle^+ \cong \langle H \rangle^+(-)$

Finally  $c \in |H|$  is genus 8 curve and  $L|_c = g_7^2$   
 "Brill-Noether special"

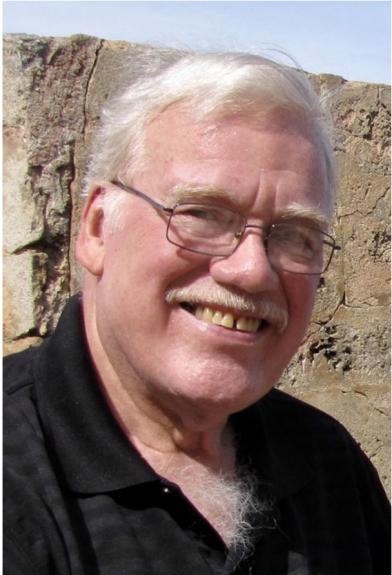
# Brill - Noether Theory for Cubic Fourfolds

Asher Auel (Dartmouth)

Edinburgh HODGE Seminar

Wednesday April 21, 2021

Dedicated to the memory of



Ray Hoobler

DIED 29 APR 2020



James Humphreys

DIED 27 AUG 2020

# Cubic Fourfolds

$X \subseteq \mathbb{P}^5$  smooth cubic hypersurface

$\mathcal{C} \subseteq \mathbb{P}(H^0(\mathbb{P}^5, \mathcal{O}(3))) / \mathrm{PGL}_6$  coarse moduli space

## Torelli theorem (Voisin)

IPHTS on  $H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})$  recovers  $X$  up to isomorphism

## Integral Hodge Conjecture (Voisin)

$CH^2(X) \rightarrow H^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) \cap H^{2,2}(X) =: A(X)$  isomorphism

Fact  $A(X) = \mathbb{Z} h^2$  for  $X$  very general

# The Noether - Lefschetz locus

$$\{X \in \mathcal{C} : \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} A(X) > 1\} = \bigcup_d \mathcal{C}_d$$

$X \in \mathcal{C}_d \iff \exists T \in A(X) \text{ with } \langle h^2, T \rangle \subseteq A(X)$   
primitive sublattice of discriminant  $d$   
 $X$  special cubic fourfold of disc.  $d$

**Thm (Hassett)**  $\mathcal{C}_d \neq \emptyset$  irreducible divisor  
 $\iff d > 6 \text{ and } d \equiv 0, 2 \pmod{6}$   
Hassett divisors

# Description of Special Cubic Fourfolds

$d$	general $X \in \mathcal{C}_d$ contains
8	plane
12	cubic scroll
14	quartic scroll
18	sextic elliptic ruled surface (Addington, Hassett, Tschinkel, Várilly-Alvarado)
20	Veronese surface
$12 \leq d \leq 38$	blow-ups at $\mathbb{P}^2$ (Nuer)
42	monic scroll (Lai)
44	Fano model of an Enriques surface (Nuer)
$d \geq 158$	$\mathcal{C}_d$ is of general type (Tanimoto, Várilly-Alvarado)

# Associated K3 surface

$(X, k_d)$  marked cubic fourfold  $k_d \hookrightarrow A(X)$   $d(k_d) = d$   
 $(S, H)$  polarized K3 surface  $H \in \text{Pic}(S)$   $H^2 = d$

$$H^2(S, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{wt } 2 \quad \text{sig } (3, 19) \quad | \ 20 \ 1$$

$$H^4(X, \mathbb{Z}) \quad \text{wt } 4 \quad \text{sig } (21, 2) \quad 0 \ 1 \ 21 \ 1 \ 0$$

$$H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})_0 = H^\perp \quad \text{wt } 2 \quad \text{sig } (2, 19) \quad | \ 19 \ 1$$

$$H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})_0 = k_d^\perp \quad \text{wt } 4 \quad \text{sig } (19, 2) \quad 0 \ 1 \ 19 \ 1 \ 0$$

**Thm (Hassett)** There exists  $(S, H)$  of degree  $d$  with

$$H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})_0 \cong H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})_0(-1) \Leftrightarrow 4 \nmid d, 9 \nmid d, p \nmid d \text{ for } p \equiv 2 \pmod{3}$$

admissible  $d = 14, 26, 38, 42, 62, 74, \dots$

# Rationality

**Conjecture** the very general  $X$  is not rational.

## Some rational cubic fourfolds

- $P_1, P_2 \subseteq X$  disjoint planes  $P_1 \times P_2 \xrightarrow{\sim} X$   
indeterminacy locus  $S \subseteq P_1 \times P_2$  deg 14 K3

lattice polarization  $\begin{array}{c|cc} & H & L \\ H & 14 & 7 \\ \hline L & 7 & 2 \end{array}$   $H = \mathcal{O}(1,1)/s$   $L = \mathcal{O}(1,0)/s$

- (Beauville, Donagi) general  $X \in \mathcal{C}_{14}$  is pfaffian  
 $X = \text{Pf} \cap \mathbb{P}^5 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{14} = \mathbb{P}(1^2 \mathbb{C}^6)$   
 $S = G(2,6) \cap \mathbb{P}^8 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^{14}$  associated deg 14 K3

# Brill-Noether theory

$C$  curve genus  $g$

How "special" is  $C \in \mathcal{M}_g$ ?

Measured by existence of unexpected  $C \xrightarrow{|g_e|^r} \mathbb{P}^r$

**Brill-Noether thm**, the general  $C \in \mathcal{M}_g$

does not admit a  $g_e^r$  whenever

$$\rho(g, r, e) = g - (r+1)(g-e+r) < 0$$

Otherwise, we call  $C$  Brill-Noether special

**Example**  $C$  has gonality  $e \Leftrightarrow C$  admits  $g_e^1$  and no  $g_{e-1}^1$

Brill-Noether special for  $g > 2e-2$

**Def** Clifford index  $\gamma(g^r) = e - 2r$

$$\gamma(c) = \min \{ \gamma(g^r) \mid r \geq 1, d = g-1 \}$$

**Theorem**  $0 \leq \gamma(c) \leq \lfloor \frac{g-1}{2} \rfloor$

**Example** In  $g=8$  the Brill-Noether special linear systems are (up to  $A \mapsto w_C \otimes A^\vee$ )

$$\underbrace{g_2^1 \quad g_4^2 \quad g_6^3}_{\gamma = 0}$$

$$\underbrace{g_3^1 \quad g_5^2 \quad g_7^3}_{\gamma = 1}$$

$$\underbrace{g_4^1 \quad g_6^2}_{\gamma = 2}$$

$$g_7^2 \quad \underbrace{\phantom{g_7^2}}_{\gamma = 3}$$

# Brill-Noether for K3s (Mukai)

**Def** A polarized K3 surface  $(S, H)$  of degree  $d = 2g - 2$  is Brill-Noether general if

$$h^0(S, N) \cdot h^0(S, M) < h^0(S, H) = g + 1$$

for any nontrivial decomposition  $H = N \otimes M$  in  $\text{Pic}(S)$

**Analogy**  $C$  is Brill-Noether general if

$$h^0(C, L) \cdot h^0(C, L^\vee \otimes \omega_X) \leq h^0(C, \omega_X) = g$$

for every  $L \in \text{Pic}(C)$ .

**Example**  $\text{Pic}(S) = \mathbb{Z}H \Rightarrow (S, H)$  is BN-general

**Theorem (Lazarsfeld)**

$\text{Pic}(S) = \mathbb{Z}H \Rightarrow \text{general } C \in |H| \text{ is BN-general}$

**Observation**

$C \in |H| \text{ is BN-general} \Rightarrow (S, H) \text{ is BN-general}$

**Theorem (Mukai)** " $\Leftarrow$ " holds for  $g \leq 10$  or  $g = 12$   
**(R. Hartshorne)** " $\Leftarrow$ " holds for  $g \leq 14$

(Saint-Donat, Reid, Green-Lazarsfeld, Mertens, Knutson, Lelli-Chiesa)

The Noether-Lefschetz locus in  $\mathcal{K}_d$

$$\{(S, H) \in \mathcal{K}_d \mid \text{rk}_{\mathbb{Z}} \text{Pic}(S) > 1\} = \bigcup_{e,n} \mathcal{K}_{e,n}^d$$

where  $(S, H) \in \mathcal{K}_{e,n}^d$  admit primitive

$$\begin{array}{c|cc} & H & L \\ \hline H & d & e \\ L & e & n \end{array} \leq \text{Pic}(S)$$

Thm (Greer, Li, Tian)

The Brill-Noether special locus  $\mathcal{K}_d^{BN} \subseteq \mathcal{K}_d$  is the union of  $\mathcal{K}_{e,n}^d$  where

$$\sqrt{dn} < e < \min \left\{ \frac{d}{2}, 1 + \frac{d+n}{2} - \frac{d+4}{n+4} \right\}$$

**Example**  $\mathcal{K}_{14}^{BN}$  has 6 components

$\mathcal{K}_{1,0}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	1
L	1	0

$\mathcal{K}_{2,0}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	2
L	2	0

$\mathcal{K}_{3,0}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	3
L	3	0

$\mathcal{K}_{4,0}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	4
L	4	0

$\mathcal{K}_{6,2}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	6
L	6	2

$\mathcal{K}_{7,2}^{14}$

	H	L
H	14	7
L	7	2

elliptic  
w/ section

$L|_C \text{ is } g_2^1$

$$\gamma = 0$$

$L|_C \text{ is } g_3^1$

$$\gamma = 1$$

$L|_C \text{ is } g_4^1$

$$\gamma = 2$$

$L|_C \text{ is } g_6^2$

$L|_C \text{ is } g_7^2$

$$\gamma = 3$$

H has  
nontrivial  
fixed part

H base point free

$\Rightarrow$  general  $C \in |H|$  smooth

# Brill-Noether Special Cubic Fourfolds

A cubic fourfold  $X$  is Brill-Noether special if it admits a Brill-Noether special associated K3.

$\mathcal{C}_d^{BN}$  marked cubic fourfolds  $(X, K_d)$  with  $H^4(X, \mathbb{Z})_0 \cong H^2(S, \mathbb{Z})_0(-1)$  and  $(S, H)$  BN-special.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C}_d^{\text{mar}} & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_d \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \mathcal{C}_d^{BN} & \hookrightarrow & \mathcal{D}_d^{BN} \end{array}$$

**Program** Relate the geometry of  $X \in \mathcal{C}_d^{BN}$  with  $(S, H)$

**Question** Which BN-special K3s are associated to (smooth) cubic fourfolds?

**Theorem** The image of  $\mathcal{C}_{14}^{BN} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{K}_{14}^{BN}$  is  $\mathcal{K}_{7,2}^{14}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_{14}^{BN}$  coincides with the locus of cubic fourfolds containing disjoint planes.

**Consequences**

- If  $(S, H)$  is associated to  $X \in \mathcal{C}_{14}$  then  $C \in |H|$  has gonality = 5 ( $r(C) = 3$ )
- $X \in \mathcal{C}_{14}$  is BN-general  $\Leftrightarrow X$  is pfaffian

Why are (smooth) cubic fourfolds  
not very Brill-Noether special?

$$\mathcal{C}_d^{\text{mark}} \longrightarrow \mathcal{K}_d$$

$$(X, \mathcal{K}_d) \longmapsto (S, H)$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{lattice} & & \text{BN-special lattice} \\ \text{planization} & \longleftrightarrow & \text{polarization} \\ \mathcal{K}_d \subseteq \Lambda \subseteq A(X) & & H \in \Sigma \subseteq \text{Pic } S \end{array}$$

Accident?  $\exists$  roots in  $\Lambda$   $\leftarrow$   $\gamma$  "low"  
 $\uparrow$   
 $X$  singular

# Questions

- Define BN-special cubic fourfolds intrinsically? In terms of  $\mathcal{A}_X \subseteq D^b(X)$ ?
- Lazarsfeld-Mukai bundles  $E_C, L$  on  $S$   
Can we see them naturally in  $D^b(S) \subseteq D^b(X)$ ?
- Lower bounds on the gonality (or Clifford index) of BN-special  $X \in \mathbb{C}d$  for  $d \rightarrow \infty$ ?