Holomorphic differentials and Witten's r-spin class

A. Pixton (MIT)

Given nonnegative integers a_1, ..., a_n with sum 2g-2, let $H_g(a_1, ..., a_n)$ be the locus in $M_{g,n}$ of n-pointed genus g curves $[C, x_1, ..., x_n]$ such that the divisor a_1 $x_1 + ... + a_n x_n$ is canonical. I will discuss a conjecture expressing the class of the closure of this locus as an r = 0 limit of Witten's r-spin class.

This is joint work with Felix Janda, Rahul Pandharipande, and Dimitri Zvonkine.