

Curves of genus two in projective space

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Much of classical algebraic geometry concerns embeddings of curves in projective space. Kontsevich's space of stable maps provides a compactification well-suited for enumerative geometry. Yet, in positive genus, the locus of smooth curves is usually not dense. I describe a smooth modular compactification in genus two that I have constructed with F. Carocci by harnessing the geometry of Gorenstein singularities and logarithmic techniques.

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