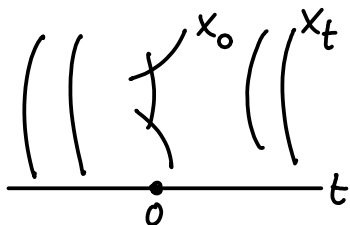


Motivation: understand GW invariants and their behavior under deformations, more specifically degenerations (know: GW don't change under smooth deformations)



deformation X_t smooth symplectic for $t \neq 0$
 X_0 singular

$$\rightarrow \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \overline{m}(X_t) = \overline{m}(X_0)$$

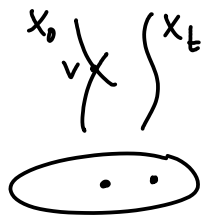
problem: understand which holom. curves appear as limits

Q: what kind of singularities should X_0 be allowed to have?

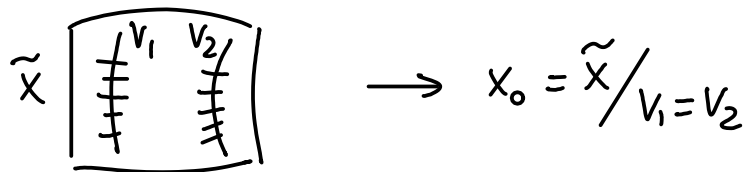
Ex: stable degenerations in alg. geom. $\rightarrow X_0$ normal crossings

• Simplest example: symplectic sum:

Assume X_0 singular, $\text{sing}(X_0) = V$ smooth codim. 2 sympl. submanifold (divisor)

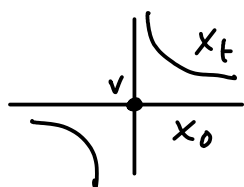


$X_0 \leftarrow \tilde{X} = \text{normalization}$
 smooth sympl. mfd containing 2 copies of V



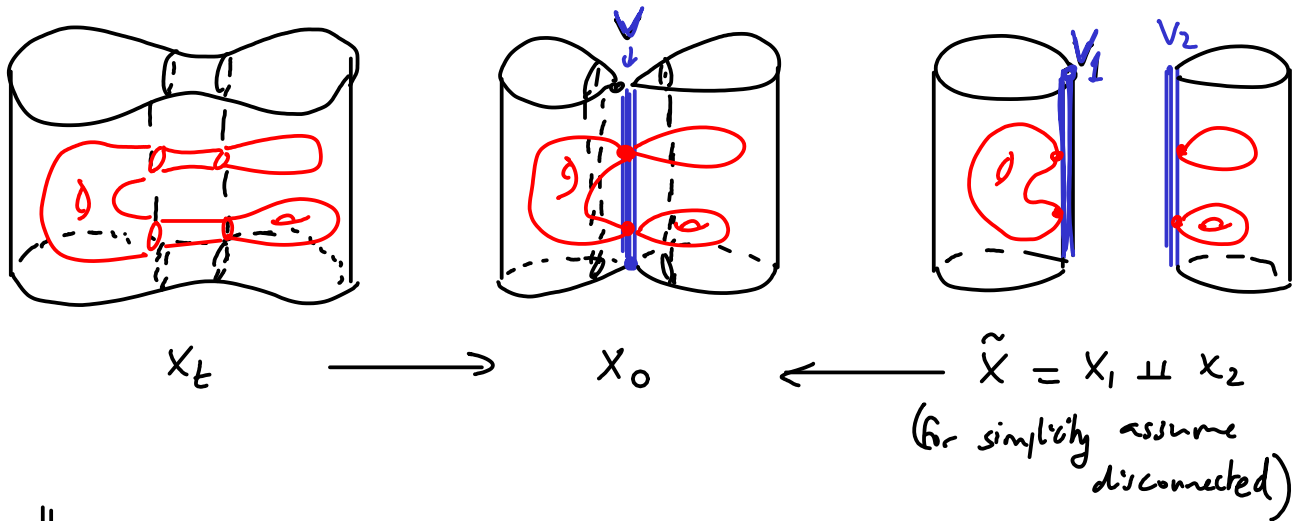
with $N_{V_1} \oplus N_{V_2} \cong \mathbb{C}$.

Local picture:



$X_t = \{xy = t\} \subset N_{V_1} \oplus N_{V_2}$
 \downarrow
 V
 $\cong \text{symplectic sum of } \tilde{X} \text{ along } V_1 = V_2.$

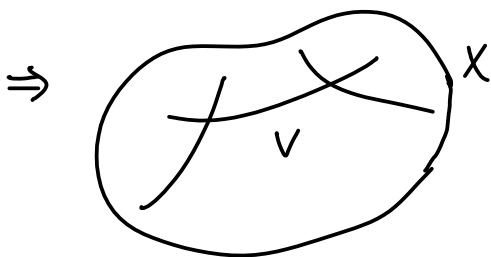
- Holom. curves in \tilde{X} that appear as limit of holom. curves in X_t are special: they satisfy certain matching conditions along $V_1=V_2$



$$\Rightarrow \parallel \begin{aligned} GW(X_t) &= GW(X_1, V_1) * GW(X_2, V_2) && \text{when } V_i \text{ smooth} \\ &\uparrow && \\ &\text{"product over } GW(V) \text{"} && \end{aligned}$$

(Zemel-Parker, Jun Li)

- This is a starting pt, but need to generalize this formula to cases where V_i can be singular in order to be able to handle more interesting degenerations (e.g. iterate the above: if we break (X, V) into 2 pieces, get 2 divisors inside the pieces)



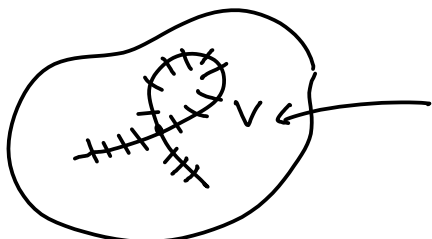
Need to define:

Rel. GW invariant of X_i smooth

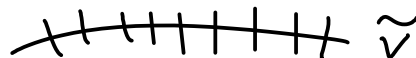
rel. to a normal crossing divisor V_i ?

and study its behavior under deformation?

NB:



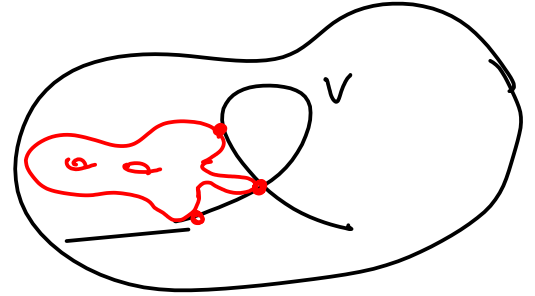
\tilde{V} = normalization of V - smooth, symplectic



- ⇒ Step 1: define relative invts $GW(X, V)$ for $V =$ normal crossing divisor
 define $\overline{m}(X, V)$ & show it carries a fundamental cycle?
Step 2: prove a degeneration formula ("Poincaré-Vietoris formula")

Consider maps with marked points and incidence conditions on strata of V at the marked points

$\mathcal{M}(X, V) =$ holom. maps into (X, V)
 $f: \Sigma \rightarrow X$
 marked points $x_i \in \Sigma$ record $f^{-1}(V)$



Each marked point x has multiplicity information $s(x)$:

if $f(x) \in V^{(k)}$ codim. k stratum of V ,

the corresponding mult. data is $s(x) = (s_1, \dots, s_k)$

s.t. in local coordinates $f_j(z) = a_j z^{s_j} + \text{higher order terms}$

$$\begin{cases} a_j \neq 0 \text{ leading term coefficient} \\ s_j = \text{multiplicity of contact to } j^{\text{th}} \text{ branch of } V \end{cases}$$

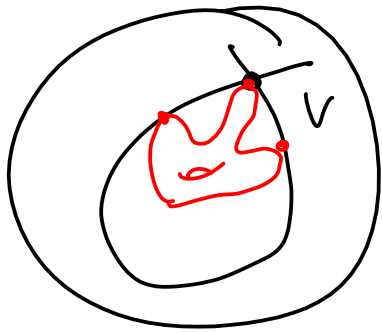
Then we have evaluation map $ev_x: \mathcal{M}(X, V) \rightarrow V^{(k)}$, $k = |s(x)|$
 (convention $V^{(0)} = X$)

& stabilization map $st: \mathcal{M}(X, V) \rightarrow \overline{m}_{g, l}(s)$

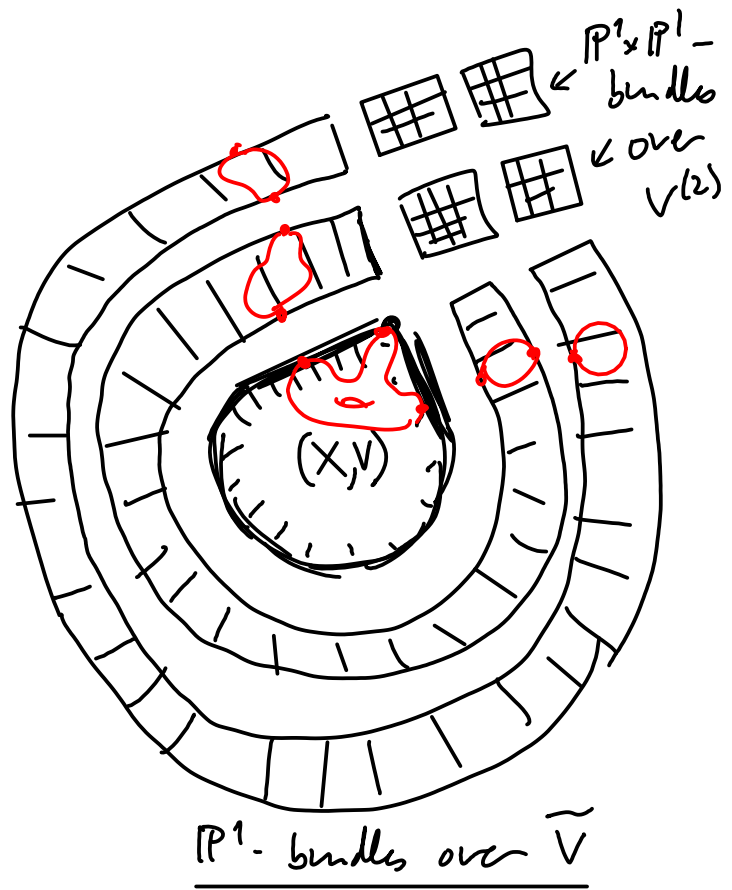
Need to compactify $\overline{m}(X, V)$ & prove it carries a fund. cycle

Point: what if, in a sequence of curves, some limit component
 collapses onto $V^{(k)}$? → need to rescale appropriately the
 normal directions, otherwise dimensions of strata will be wrong

Ie: rescale normal to V :



rescaling limit

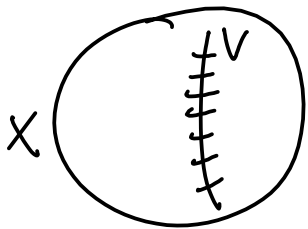
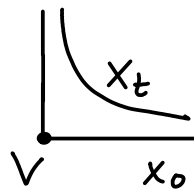


with matching conditions
= same intersection # with V ,
same multiplicities

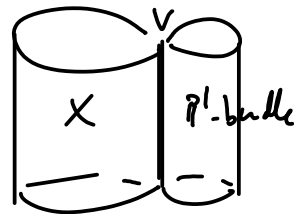
Not all curves that satisfy these
limits of curves in $X_t \Rightarrow$ need

matching conditions appear as
enhanced matching conditions

Ex: target := $X_t = \{xy = t\}$



rescaling limit: $X \# \mathbb{P}^1$ -bundle over V



Now, domain of curves in X_t :



Then: in limit $x(z) = az^s + \dots$
 $y(w) = bw^s + \dots$ same contact orders s

and need: $xy = ab(zw)^s + \dots = ab\mu^s + \dots = t$

\rightarrow condition on leading coeffs a & b !! namely $\forall t \exists \mu / ab\mu^s = t$

When there are several breaking points, need $t =$ same at all pts!

• Similarly in higher codim: when domain breaks,

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x_j(z) &= a_j z^{s_j} + \dots \\ y_j(w) &= b_j w^{s_j} + \dots \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} &\text{need matching condition on coefficients} \\ &\text{so } a_j b_j \mu^{s_j} \text{ are compatible !!} \end{aligned}$$

contact line $\mathcal{L}_x = T_x^* \Sigma$

\Rightarrow extra information: lead coefficients $a_i \in \text{ev}^* N_{V_j} \otimes \mathcal{L}_x$
 must be kept track of in "enhanced evaluation map"

\rightarrow get: $\tilde{\text{ev}}_x: \overline{m(x, V)} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}_{S(x)}(N_{V(k)})$

projectivization of the leading coeffs lives in fiber of this bundle over $f(x) \in V^{(k)}$. \checkmark

\rightarrow relative GW invariants by pulling back classes from $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{\text{ev}}_x \text{ enhanced eval.} \\ \text{st stabilization} \end{array} \right.$

\rightarrow generalized symplectic sum formula for these invariants

(involves fiber product of relative moduli spaces for the various pieces over enhanced compatibility condition at marked points from enhanced evaluation maps)

\triangleq $\tilde{\text{ev}}_x$ only sees \mathbb{P} (leading coeffs), need a bit more to formulate the compatibility condition...