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Asymptotics for graph complex Euler characteristics

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I will report on a work on the asymptotic growth rate of the top-weight Euler characteristic of the moduli space of curves and on an ongoing joint work with Karen Vogtmann on the topology of Out(Fn). In both cases, graph complexes, which compute the cohomology of the respective spaces, are instrumental. Proofs for the super-exponential asymptotic growth rate of the Euler characteristics in each case establish the existence of large amounts of unexplained cohomology both in Out(Fn) and the top-weight cohomology of the moduli space of curves.

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