

Deformation Spaces of Rational Maps

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Building on the work of W. Thurston on postcritically finite maps, A. Epstein introduced deformation spaces into holomorphic dynamics. He suggested them as an approach to study varieties defined by postcritically finite relations. We study topological properties of deformation spaces. We will discuss theorems and conjectures on the boundary behavior of the deformation spaces. In particular, when the behavior can be described in terms of postcritically finite maps. This is joint work with J. Kahn and N. Selinger.