A characterization of Prym varieties

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Abstract

Prym varieties are a special class of abelian varieties, naturally embedded in Jacobians of curves with an involution. Many of geometric properties of Jacobians can be generalized to Prym varieties.

However, unlike the case of Jacobians, almost none of these generalizations characterize Pryms. In this talk we will present a geometric characterization of Prym varieties by the existence of pairs of quadrisecant planes.

Based on joint work with I. Krichever.