Abstract

We give a short and direct proof of Getzler and Pandharipande's λ_g-Conjecture. The approach is through the Ekedahl-Lando-Shapiro-Vainshtein theorem, which establishes the "poly-nomiality" of Hurwitz numbers, from which we pick of the lowest degree terms. The proof is independent of Gromov-Witten theory.

We briefly describe the philosophy behind our general approach to intersection numbers and how it may be extended to other intersection number conjectures.