

1084-14-179

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84112. *RATIONALITY IN FAMILIES OF THREEFOLDS.*

In this joint work with Tommaso de Fernex, we prove that in a family of projective threefolds defined over an algebraically closed field, the locus of rational fibers is a countable union of closed subsets of the locus of separably rationally connected fibers. When the ground field has characteristic zero, this implies that the locus of rational fibers in a smooth family of projective threefolds is a countable union of closed subsets of the parameter space. (Received August 31, 2012)