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Brian Osserman*, Department of Mathematics, One Shields Ave, University of California,
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Linear series are fundamental to the study of algebraic curves, and the most powerful technique to date for studying linear series is the theory of limit linear series, a degeneration technique introduced by Eisenbud and Harris. However, for the past nearly 30 years, several foundational questions relating to limit linear series have remained open, including how to generalize them from curves of compact type to more general nodal curves. I will describe how the discovery of an equivalent definition of limit linear series has opened the door to solutions of many of these questions. (Received August 25, 2014)