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**Lloyd W West\*** ([lwest@gc.cuny.edu](mailto:lwest@gc.cuny.edu)). *The moduli space of cubic rational maps.*

Rational maps on the projective line have long been studied from a dynamical point of view. The moduli space  $M_2$  of quadratic rational maps has been explicitly described by Milnor and Silverman.

In this talk, we give an explicit description of the moduli space  $M_3$  of cubic rational maps on  $\mathbb{P}^1$ . Moreover, using classical invariant theory, we solve the problem of field-of-moduli vs field-of-definition for this moduli space. (Received January 26, 2014)