

In recent years renewed attention has been brought to measures of irrationality for projective varieties. While vector bundle methods have been leveraged by Bastianelli, de Poi, Ein, Lazarsfeld, and Ullery to study the degree of irrationality and covering gonality of high degree hypersurfaces, building on work of Pirola and Alzati-Pirola, Voisin has used rational equivalence of zero-cycles to show that the covering gonality of a very general abelian variety of dimension g goes to infinity with g . I will sketch how one can generalize Voisin's method in order to prove the following conjecture: A very general abelian variety of dimension at least $2k-1$ has covering gonality greater than k . If time permits, I will present new lower bounds on the degree of (uni)irrationality of very general abelian varieties obtained in collaboration with Colombo, Naranjo, and Pirola.