

Elliptic Curves. Exercises

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Exercise 0.1. Compute the discriminant of the curve $y^2 + 2xy + 2y = x^3 + 3x^3 + 2x + 1$. Is it an elliptic curve over \mathbb{Q} ? and over \mathbb{F}_7 ?

Exercise 0.2. Compute a Legendre model for the elliptic curve $E : y^2 + 2xy + 2y = x^3 + 3x^3 + 2x + 1/\mathbb{Q}$.

Exercise 0.3. Show that 3 points on an elliptic curve add to ∞ if and only if they are collinear.

Exercise 0.4. Determine the doubling and addition formulas for an elliptic curve in characteristic 2 and 3.

Exercise 0.5. Let E be given by $y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$ over a field K and let $d \in K^*$. The twist of E by d is the elliptic curve $E^{(d)}$ given by $y^2 = x^3 + Ad^2x + Bd^3$.

(a) Show that $j(E^{(d)}) = j(E)$.

(b) Show that $E^{(d)}$ can be transformed into E over $K(\sqrt{d})$.

(c) Show that $E^{(d)}$ can be transformed over K to the form $dy^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$.

Exercise 0.6. Let k be a field of characteristic different from 2 or 3. Let us consider an elliptic curve $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ given by a simplified Weierstrass model. Prove that the automorphism group $\text{Aut}(E)$ has only 2 elements if $j \neq 0, 1728$, 4 elements if $j = 1728$ and 6 elements if $j = 0$ (if the characteristic is 2 or 3 the automorphism group may be larger).

Exercise 0.7. Let k be a field of characteristic different from 2 or 3. Let us consider an elliptic curve $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ given by a simplified Weierstrass model. Find a Legendre model $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda)$.

Starting now with a Legendre model $y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda)$, find a Weierstrass model. Check that the j -invariant is given by

$$j = 2^8 \frac{(\lambda^2 - \lambda + 1)^3}{\lambda^2(\lambda - 1)^2}$$

and that the values $\frac{1}{\lambda}, 1 - \lambda, \frac{1}{1-\lambda}, \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-1}, \frac{\lambda-1}{\lambda}$ produce the same j -invariant. Can you find a reason for that?

Exercise 0.8. (2-torsion) Let E/k be an elliptic curve given by a simplified Weierstrass model $E: y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$. Find $E[2]$.

(3-torsion) Let E/k be an elliptic curve given by a simplified Weierstrass model $E: y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$. Find $E[3]$.

Exercise 0.9. Let E be the elliptic curve $y^2 = x^3 + 1 \pmod{5}$.

(a) Compute the division polynomial $\psi_3(x)$.

(b) Compute $\gcd(x^5 - x, \psi_3(x))$.

(c) Use the result of part (b) to show that the 3-torsion points in $E(\mathbb{F}_5)$ are $\{\infty, (0, 1), (0, -1)\}$.

Exercise 0.10. Let E be an elliptic curve in characteristic 2. Show that the $E[3] \simeq C_3 \oplus C_3$.

Exercise 0.11. Let E be an elliptic curve over a field K and let $P \neq \infty$ be a point of exact order n (where n is not divisible by the characteristic of K). Let $Q \in E[n]$. Show that there exists an integer k such that $Q = kP$ if and only if $e_n(P, Q) = 1$.

Exercise 0.12. Show that each of the following elliptic curves defined over \mathbb{Q} has the stated torsion group:

- $y^2 = x^3 - 2; \{O\}$.
- $y^2 = x^3 + 8; \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$;
- $y^2 = x^3 + 4; \mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z}$;
- $y^2 = x^3 + 4x; \mathbb{Z}/4\mathbb{Z}$;
- $y^2 = x^3 - 432x + 8208; \mathbb{Z}/5\mathbb{Z}$;
- $y^2 = x^3 + 1; \mathbb{Z}/6\mathbb{Z}$;

Exercise 0.13. Let $E/\mathbb{Q}: y^2 = x^3 + 2x - 2$. Prove that E is an elliptic curve. Let $P = (1, 1) \in E(\mathbb{Q})$. Compute $2P$. Prove that E has infinitely many rational points.