



# Lecture 2

## Elliptic curves over finite fields

### The Group structure

**Algebraic Structures, Cryptography,  
Number Theory and Applications**

*African Mathematical School*

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## Definition (Elliptic curve)

An elliptic curve over a field  $K$  is the data of a non singular Weierstraß equation

$$E : y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6, a_i \in K$$

If  $p = \text{char } K > 3$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_E := & \frac{1}{24} \left( -a_1^5 a_3 a_4 - 8a_1^3 a_2 a_3 a_4 - 16a_1 a_2^2 a_3 a_4 + 36a_1^2 a_3^2 a_4 \right. \\ & - a_1^4 a_4^2 - 8a_1^2 a_2 a_4^2 - 16a_2^2 a_4^2 + 96a_1 a_3 a_4^2 + 64a_4^3 + \\ & a_1^6 a_6 + 12a_1^4 a_2 a_6 + 48a_1^2 a_2^2 a_6 + 64a_2^3 a_6 - 36a_1^3 a_3 a_6 \\ & \left. - 144a_1 a_2 a_3 a_6 - 72a_1^2 a_4 a_6 - 288a_2 a_4 a_6 + 432a_6^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

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After applying a suitable affine transformation we can always assume that  $E/K$  has a Weierstraß equation of the following form

### Example (Classification ( $p = \text{char } K$ ))

$E$	$p$	$\Delta_E$
$y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$	$\geq 5$	$4A^3 + 27B^2$
$y^2 + xy = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6$	2	$a_6^2$
$y^2 + a_3y = x^3 + a_4x + a_6$	2	$a_3^4$
$y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx + C$	3	$4A^3C - A^2B^2 - 18ABC + 4B^3 + 27C^2$

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  elliptic curve,  $\infty := [0, 1, 0]$ . Set

$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_q^2 : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B\} \cup \{\infty\}$$

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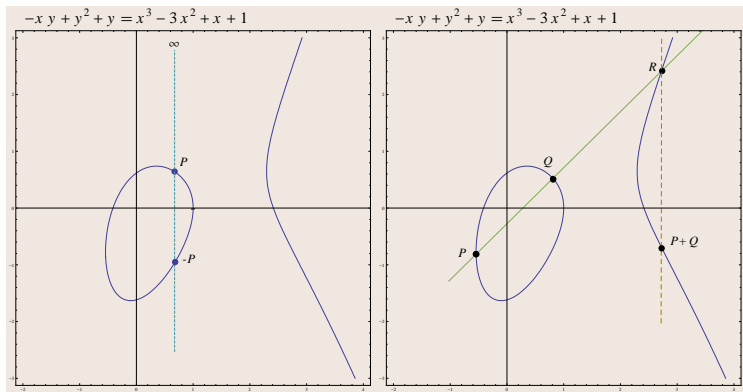
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If  $P, Q \in E(\mathbb{F}_q)$ ,  $r_{P,Q} : \begin{cases} \text{line through } P \text{ and } Q & \text{if } P \neq Q \\ \text{tangent line to } E \text{ at } P & \text{if } P = Q, \end{cases}$   
 $r_{P,\infty} : \text{vertical line through } P$



$$r_{P,\infty} \cap E(\mathbb{F}_q) = \{P, \infty, P'\}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow -P := P'$$

$$r_{P,Q} \cap E(\mathbb{F}_q) = \{P, Q, R\}$$

$$\rightsquigarrow P +_E Q := -R$$



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## Theorem

The addition law on  $E/K$  ( $K$  field) has the following properties:

$$(a) \quad P +_E Q \in E \qquad \forall P, Q \in E$$

$$(b) \quad P +_E \infty = \infty +_E P = P \qquad \forall P \in E$$

$$(c) \quad P +_E (-P) = \infty \qquad \forall P \in E$$

$$(d) \quad P +_E (Q +_E R) = (P +_E Q) +_E R \qquad \forall P, Q, R \in E$$

$$(e) \quad P +_E Q = Q +_E P \qquad \forall P, Q \in E$$

So  $(E(\bar{K}), +_E)$  is an abelian group.

## Remark:

If  $E/K \Rightarrow \forall L, K \subseteq L \subseteq \bar{K}, E(L)$  is an abelian group.

$$-P = -(x_1, y_1) = (x_1, -a_1 x_1 - a_3 - y_1)$$

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## Formulas for Addition on $E$ (Summary)

$$E : y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6$$

$$P_1 = (x_1, y_1), P_2 = (x_2, y_2) \in E(K) \setminus \{\infty\},$$

### Addition Laws for the sum of affine points

- If  $P_1 \neq P_2$

- $x_1 = x_2$
- $x_1 \neq x_2$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 +_E P_2 = \infty$$

$$\lambda = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}, \quad \nu = \frac{y_1x_2 - y_2x_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

- If  $P_1 = P_2$

- $2y_1 + a_1x + a_3 = 0$
- $2y_1 + a_1x + a_3 \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 +_E P_2 = 2P_1 = \infty$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3x_1^2 + 2a_2x_1 + a_4 - a_1y_1}{2y_1 + a_1x + a_3}, \quad \nu = -\frac{a_3y_1 + x_1^3 - a_4x_1 - 2a_6}{2y_1 + a_1x + a_3}$$

Then

$$P_1 +_E P_2 = (\lambda^2 - a_1\lambda - a_2 - x_1 - x_2, -\lambda^3 - a_1^2\lambda + (\lambda + a_1)(a_2 + x_1 + x_2) - a_3 - \nu)$$



# Formulas for Addition on $E$ (Summary for special equation)



$$E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$$

$$P_1 = (x_1, y_1), P_2 = (x_2, y_2) \in E(K) \setminus \{\infty\},$$

## Addition Laws for the sum of affine points

- If  $P_1 \neq P_2$

- $x_1 = x_2$
- $x_1 \neq x_2$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 +_E P_2 = \infty$$

$$\lambda = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}, \quad \nu = \frac{y_1 x_2 - y_2 x_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

- If  $P_1 = P_2$

- $y_1 = 0$
- $y_1 \neq 0$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 +_E P_2 = 2P_1 = \infty$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3x_1^2 + A}{2y_1}, \quad \nu = -\frac{x_1^3 - Ax_1 - 2B}{2y_1}$$

Then

$$P_1 +_E P_2 = (x^2 - x_1 - x_2, -\lambda^3 + \lambda(x_1 + x_2) - \nu)$$

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## Finite fields

- 1  $\mathbb{F}_p = \{0, 1, \dots, p-1\}$  is the prime field;
- 2  $\mathbb{F}_q$  is a finite field with  $q = p^n$  elements;
- 3  $\mathbb{F}_q = \mathbb{F}_p[\xi]$ ,  $f(\xi) = 0$ ,  $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[X]$  irreducible,  $\partial f = n$ ;
- 4  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \mathbb{F}_2[\xi]$ ,  $\xi^2 = 1 + \xi$ ;
- 5  $\mathbb{F}_8 = \mathbb{F}_2[\alpha]$ ,  $\alpha^3 = \alpha + 1$  but also  $\mathbb{F}_8 = \mathbb{F}_2[\beta]$ ,  $\beta^3 = \beta^2 + 1$ ,  
( $\beta = \alpha^2 + 1$ );
- 6  $\mathbb{F}_{101^{101}} = \mathbb{F}_{101}[\omega]$ ,  $\omega^{101} = \omega + 1$

## Algebraic Closure of $\mathbb{F}_q$

- 1  $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we fix an  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$
- 2 We also require that  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n} \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^m}$  if  $n \mid m$
- 3 We let  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbb{F}_{q^n}$
- 4  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q$  is algebraically closed

If  $F(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}_q[x, y]$  a point of the curve  $F = 0$ , means  $(x_0, y_0) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_q^2$  s.t.  $F(x_0, y_0) = 0$ .

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## The $j$ -invariant

Let  $E/K : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$ ,  $p \geq 5$  and  $\Delta_E := 4A^3 + 27B^2$ .

$$\begin{cases} x \longleftarrow u^{-2}x \\ y \longleftarrow u^{-3}y \end{cases} \quad u \in K^* \Rightarrow E \longrightarrow E_u : y^2 = x^3 + u^4Ax + u^6B$$

### Definition

The  $j$ -invariant of  $E$  is  $j = j(E) = 1728 \frac{4A^3}{4A^3 + 27B^2}$

### Properties of $j$ -invariants

- 1  $j(E) = j(E_u), \forall u \in K^*$
- 2  $j(E'/K) = j(E''/K) \Rightarrow \exists u \in \bar{K}^*$  s.t.  $E'' = E'_u$   
if  $K = \mathbb{F}_q$  can take  $u \in \mathbb{F}_{q^{12}}$
- 3  $j \neq 0, 1728 \Rightarrow E : y^2 = x^3 + \frac{3j}{1728-j}x + \frac{2j}{1728-j}, j(E) = j$
- 4  $j = 0 \Rightarrow E : y^2 = x^3 + B, j = 1728 \Rightarrow E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax$
- 5  $j : K \longleftrightarrow \{\bar{K}\text{-affinely equivalent classes of } E/K\}$ .
- 6  $p = 2, 3$  different definition





## Examples of $j$ invariants

From monday  $E_1 : y^2 = x^3 + 1$  and  $E_2 : y^2 = x^3 + 2$

$$\#E_1(\mathbb{F}_5) = \#E_2(\mathbb{F}_5) = 6 \quad \text{and} \quad j(E_1) = j(E_2) = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x \longleftarrow 2x \\ y \longleftarrow \sqrt{3}y \end{cases}$$

$E_1$  and  $E_2$  affinely equivalent over  $\mathbb{F}_5[\sqrt{3}] = \mathbb{F}_{25}$  (*twists*)

### Definition (twisted curve)

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B, \mu \in \mathbb{F}_q^* \setminus (\mathbb{F}_q^*)^2$ .

$$E_\mu : y^2 = x^3 + \mu^2 Ax + \mu^3 B$$

is called **twisted curve**.

### Exercise: prove that

- $j(E) = j(E_\mu)$
- $E$  and  $E_\mu$  are  $\mathbb{F}_q[\sqrt{\mu}]$ -affinely equivalent
- $\#E(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}) = \#E_\mu(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$
- usually  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) \neq \#E_\mu(\mathbb{F}_q)$

## Determining points of order 2

Let  $P = (x_1, y_1) \in E(\mathbb{F}_q) \setminus \{\infty\}$ ,

$$P \text{ has order 2} \iff 2P = \infty \iff P = -P$$

So

$$-P = (x_1, -a_1x_1 - a_3 - y_1) = (x_1, y_1) = P \implies 2y_1 = -a_1x_1 - a_3$$

If  $p \neq 2$ , can assume  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx + C$

$$-P = (x_1, -y_1) = (x_1, y_1) = P \implies y_1 = 0, x_1^3 + Ax_1^2 + Bx_1 + C = 0$$

### Note

- the number of points of order 2 in  $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  equals the number of roots of  $X^3 + Ax^2 + Bx + C$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q$
- roots are distinct since discriminant  $\Delta_E \neq 0$
- $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^6})$  has always 3 points of order 2 if  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$
- $E[2] := \{P \in E(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_q) : 2P = \infty\} \cong C_2 \oplus C_2$





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## Determining points of order 2 (continues)

- If  $p = 2$  and  $E : y^2 + a_3y = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6$

$$-P = (x_1, a_3 + y_1) = (x_1, y_1) = P \implies a_3 = 0$$

Absurd ( $a_3 = 0$ ) and there are no points of order 2.

- If  $p = 2$  and  $E : y^2 + xy = x^3 + a_4x + a_6$

$$-P = (x_1, x_1 + y_1) = (x_1, y_1) = P \implies x_1 = 0, y_1^2 = a_6$$

So there is exactly one point of order 2 namely  $(0, \sqrt{a_6})$

### Definition

#### 2-torsion points

$$E[2] = \{P \in E : 2P = \infty\}.$$

In conclusion

$$E[2] \cong \begin{cases} C_2 \oplus C_2 & \text{if } p > 2 \\ C_2 & \text{if } p = 2, E : y^2 + xy = x^3 + a_4x + a_6 \\ \{\infty\} & \text{if } p = 2, E : y^2 + a_3y = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 \end{cases}$$



Each curve  $/\mathbb{F}_2$  has cyclic  $E(\mathbb{F}_2)$ .

$E$	$E(\mathbb{F}_2)$	$ E(\mathbb{F}_2) $
$y^2 + xy = x^3 + x^2 + 1$	$\{\infty, (0, 1)\}$	2
$y^2 + xy = x^3 + 1$	$\{\infty, (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$	4
$y^2 + y = x^3 + x$	$\{\infty, (0, 0), (0, 1), (1, 0), (1, 1)\}$	5
$y^2 + y = x^3 + x + 1$	$\{\infty\}$	1
$y^2 + y = x^3$	$\{\infty, (0, 0), (0, 1)\}$	3

- $E_1 : y^2 = x^3 + x$        $E_2 : y^2 = x^3 - x$   
 $E_1(\mathbb{F}_3) \cong C_4$       and       $E_2(\mathbb{F}_3) \cong C_2 \oplus C_2$
- $E_3 : y^2 = x^3 + x$        $E_4 : y^2 = x^3 + x + 2$   
 $E_3(\mathbb{F}_5) \cong C_2 \oplus C_2$       and       $E_4(\mathbb{F}_5) \cong C_4$
- $E_5 : y^2 = x^3 + 4x$        $E_6 : y^2 = x^3 + 4x + 1$   
 $E_5(\mathbb{F}_5) \cong C_2 \oplus C_4$       and       $E_6(\mathbb{F}_5) \cong C_8$

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## Determining points of order 3

Let  $P = (x_1, y_1) \in E(\mathbb{F}_q)$

$$P \text{ has order 3} \iff 3P = \infty \iff 2P = -P$$

So, if  $p > 3$  and  $E : y^2 = x^2 + Ax + B$

$$2P = (x_{2P}, y_{2P}) = 2(x_1, y_1) = (\lambda^2 - 2x_1, -\lambda^3 + 2\lambda x_1 - \nu)$$

$$\text{where } \lambda = \frac{3x_1^2 + A}{2y_1}, \nu = -\frac{x_1^3 - Ax_1 - 2B}{2y_1}.$$

$$P \text{ has order 3} \iff x_{2P} = x_1$$

$$\text{Substituting } \lambda, \quad x_{2P} - x_1 = \frac{-3x_1^4 - 6Ax_1^2 - 12Bx_1 + A^2}{4(x_1^3 + Ax_1 + 4B)} = 0$$

### Note

- $\psi_3(x) := 3x^4 + 6Ax^2 + 12Bx - A^2$  the 3<sup>rd</sup> *division* polynomial
- $(x_1, y_1) \in E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  has order 3  $\Rightarrow \psi_3(x_1) = 0$
- $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  has at most 8 points of order 3
- If  $p \neq 3$ ,  $E[3] := \{P \in E : 3P = \infty\} \cong C_3 \oplus C_3$

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## Determining points of order 3 (continues)



### Exercise

Let  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx + C$ ,  $A, B, C \in \mathbb{F}_{3^n}$ . Prove that if  $P = (x_1, y_1) \in E(\mathbb{F}_{3^n})$  has order 3, then

- 1  $Ax_1^3 + AC - B^2 = 0$
- 2  $E[3] \cong C_3$  if  $A \neq 0$  and  $E[3] = \{\infty\}$  otherwise

### Example (from Monday)

If  $E : y^2 = x^3 + x + 1$ , then  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_5) = 9$ .

$$\psi_3(x) = (x + 3)(x + 4)(x^2 + 3x + 4)$$

Hence

$$E[3] = \left\{ \infty, (2, \pm 1), (1, \pm \sqrt{3}), (1 \pm 2\sqrt{3}, \pm(1 \pm \sqrt{3})) \right\}$$

- 1  $E(\mathbb{F}_5) = \{\infty, (2, \pm 1), (0, \pm 1), (3, \pm 1), (4, \pm 2)\} \cong C_9$
- 2 Since  $\mathbb{F}_{25} = \mathbb{F}_5[\sqrt{3}] \Rightarrow E[3] \subset E(\mathbb{F}_{25})$
- 3  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_{25}) = 27 \Rightarrow E(\mathbb{F}_{25}) \cong C_3 \oplus C_9$

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## Determining points of order 3 (continues)

Inequivalent curves  $/\mathbb{F}_7$  with  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_7) = 9$ .

$E$	$\psi_3(x)$	$E[3] \cap E(\mathbb{F}_7)$	$E(\mathbb{F}_7) \cong$
$y^2 = x^3 + 2$	$x(x+1)(x+2)(x+4)$	$\left\{ \infty, (0, \pm 3), (-1, \pm 1), (5, \pm 1), (3, \pm 1) \right\}$	$C_3 \oplus C_3$
$y^2 = x^3 + 3x + 2$	$(x+2)(x^3 + 5x^2 + 3x + 2)$	$\{ \infty, (5, \pm 3) \}$	$C_9$
$y^2 = x^3 + 5x + 2$	$(x+4)(x^3 + 3x^2 + 5x + 2)$	$\{ \infty, (3, \pm 3) \}$	$C_9$
$y^2 = x^3 + 6x + 2$	$(x+1)(x^3 + 6x^2 + 6x + 2)$	$\{ \infty, (6, \pm 3) \}$	$C_9$

Can one count the number of inequivalent  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  with  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = r$ ?

**Example (A curve over  $\mathbb{F}_4 = \mathbb{F}_2(\xi)$ ,  $\xi^2 = \xi + 1$ ;  $E : y^2 + y = x^3$ )**

We know  $E(\mathbb{F}_2) = \{ \infty, (0, 0), (0, 1) \} \subset E(\mathbb{F}_4)$ .

$E(\mathbb{F}_4) = \{ \infty, (0, 0), (0, 1), (1, \xi), (1, \xi + 1), (\xi, \xi), (\xi, \xi + 1), (\xi + 1, \xi), (\xi + 1, \xi + 1) \}$

$$\psi_3(x) = x^4 + x = x(x+1)(x+\xi)(x+\xi+1) \Rightarrow E(\mathbb{F}_4) \cong C_3 \oplus C_3$$

**Exercise (Suppose  $(x_0, y_0) \in E/\mathbb{F}_{2^n}$  has order 3. Show that)**

①  $E : y^2 + a_3y = x^3 + a_4x + a_6 \Rightarrow x_0^4 + a_3^2x_0 + (a_4a_3)^2 = 0$

②  $E : y^2 + xy = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 \Rightarrow x_0^4 + x_0^3 + a_6 = 0$



## Determining points of order (dividing) $m$

### Definition ( $m$ -torsion point)

Let  $E/K$  and let  $\bar{K}$  an algebraic closure of  $K$ .

$$E[m] = \{P \in E(\bar{K}) : mP = \infty\}$$

### Theorem (Structure of Torsion Points)

Let  $E/K$  and  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . If  $p = \text{char}(K) \nmid m$ ,

$$E[m] \cong C_m \oplus C_m$$

If  $m = p^r m'$ ,  $p \nmid m'$ ,

$$E[m] \cong C_m \oplus C_{m'} \quad \text{or} \quad E[m] \cong C_{m'} \oplus C_{m'}$$

$E/\mathbb{F}_p$  is called  $\begin{cases} \text{ordinary} & \text{if } E[p] \cong C_p \\ \text{supersingular} & \text{if } E[p] = \{\infty\} \end{cases}$



## Group Structure of $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$

### Corollary

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$ .  $\exists n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  are such that

$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong C_n \oplus C_{nk}$$

### Proof.

From classification Theorem of finite abelian group

$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong C_{n_1} \oplus C_{n_2} \oplus \cdots \oplus C_{n_r}$$

with  $n_i | n_{i+1}$  for  $i \geq 1$ .

Hence  $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  contains  $n_1^r$  points of order dividing  $n_1$ . From *Structure of Torsion Theorem*,  $\#E[n_1] \leq n_1^2$ . So  $r \leq 2$  □

### Theorem (Corollary of Weil Pairing)

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  and  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $E(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong C_n \oplus C_{nk}$ . Then  $n \mid q - 1$ .

We shall discuss the proof of the latter tomorrow





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# Sketch of the proof of Structure Theorem of Torsion Points

## The division polynomials

The proof generalizes previous ideas and determine the points  $P \in E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  such that  $mP = \infty$  or equivalently  $(m-1)P = -P$ .

**Definition (Division Polynomials of  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$  ( $p > 3$ ))**

$$\psi_0 = 0$$

$$\psi_1 = 1$$

$$\psi_2 = 2y$$

$$\psi_3 = 3x^4 + 6Ax^2 + 12Bx - A^2$$

$$\psi_4 = 4y(x^6 + 5Ax^4 + 20Bx^3 - 5A^2x^2 - 4ABx - 8B^2 - A^3)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\psi_{2m+1} = \psi_{m+2}\psi_m^3 - \psi_{m-1}\psi_{m+1}^3 \quad \text{for } m \geq 2$$

$$\psi_{2m} = \left(\frac{\psi_m}{2y}\right) \cdot (\psi_{m+2}\psi_{m-1}^2 - \psi_{m-2}\psi_{m+1}^2) \quad \text{for } m \geq 3$$

The polynomial  $\psi_m \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$  is called the  $m^{\text{th}}$  *division polynomial*

# The division polynomials

## Lemma

Let  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$ , ( $p > 3$ ) and let  $\psi_m \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$  the  $m^{\text{th}}$  division polynomial. Then

$$\psi_{2m+1} \in \mathbb{Z}[x] \quad \text{and} \quad \psi_{2m} \in 2y\mathbb{Z}[x]$$

## Proof is an exercise.

True  $\psi_0, \psi_1, \psi_2, \psi_3, \psi_4$  and for the rest apply induction, the identity  $y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B \dots$  and consider the cases  $m$  odd and  $m$  even. □

## Lemma

$$\psi_m = \begin{cases} y(mx^{(m^2-4)/2} + \dots) & \text{if } m \text{ is even} \\ mx^{(m^2-1)/2} + \dots & \text{if } m \text{ is odd.} \end{cases}$$

Hence  $\psi_m^2 = m^2x^{m^2-1} + \dots$

## Proof is another exercise on induction:



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**Theorem** ( $E : Y^2 = X^3 + AX + B$  elliptic curve,  $P = (x, y) \in E$ )

$$m(x, y) = \left( x - \frac{\psi_{m-1}\psi_{m+1}}{\psi_m^2(x)}, \frac{\psi_{2m}(x, y)}{2\psi_m^4(x)} \right) = \left( \frac{\phi_m(x)}{\psi_m^2(x)}, \frac{\omega_m(x, y)}{\psi_m^3(x, y)} \right)$$

where

$$\phi_m = x\psi_m^2 - \psi_{m+1}\psi_{m-1}, \omega_m = \frac{\psi_{m+2}\psi_{m-1}^2 - \psi_{m-2}\psi_{m+1}^2}{4y}$$

We will omit the proof of the above (see [8, Section 9.5])

**Exercise** (Prove that after substituting  $y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B$ )

- 1  $\phi_m(x) \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$
- 2  $\phi_m(x) = x^{m^2} + \dots \quad \psi_m(x)^2 = m^2 x^{m^2-1} + \dots$
- 3  $\omega_{2m+1} \in y\mathbb{Z}[x], \omega_{2m} \in \mathbb{Z}[x]$
- 4  $\frac{\omega_m(x, y)}{\psi_m^3(x, y)} \in y\mathbb{Z}(x)$
- 5  $\gcd(\psi_m^2(x), \phi_m(x)) = 1$

this is not really an exercise!! - see [8, Corollary 3.7]



## Lemma

$$\#E[m] = \#\{P \in E(\bar{K}) : mP = \infty\} \begin{cases} = m^2 & \text{if } p \nmid m \\ < m^2 & \text{if } p \mid m \end{cases}$$

## Proof.

Consider the homomorphism:

$$[m] : E(\bar{K}) \rightarrow E(\bar{K}), P \mapsto mP$$

If  $p \nmid m$ , need to show that

$$\#\text{Ker}[m] = \#E[m] = m^2$$

We shall prove that  $\exists P_0 = (a, b) \in [m](E(\bar{K})) \setminus \{\infty\}$  s.t.

$$\#\{P \in E(\bar{K}) : mP = P_0\} = m^2$$

Since  $E(\bar{K})$  infinite, we can choose  $(a, b) \in [m](E(\bar{K}))$  s.t.

①  $ab \neq 0$

②  $\forall x_0 \in \bar{K} : (\phi'_m \psi_m - 2\phi_m \psi'_m)(x_0) \psi_m(x_0) = 0 \Rightarrow a \neq \frac{\phi_m(x_0)}{\psi_m^2(x_0)}$

if  $p \nmid m$ , conditions imply that  $\phi_m(x) - a\psi_m^2(x)$

has  $m^2 = \partial(\phi_m(x) - a\psi_m^2(x))$  distinct roots

in fact  $\partial\phi_m(x) = m^2$  and  $\partial\psi_m^2(x) = m^2 - 1$





## Proof continues.

Write

$$mP = m(x, y) = \left( \frac{\phi_m(x)}{\psi_m^2(x)}, \frac{\omega_m(x, y)}{\psi_m^3(x)} \right) = \left( \frac{\phi_m(x)}{\psi_m^2(x)}, yr(x) \right)$$

The map

$$\{\alpha \in \bar{K} : \phi_m(\alpha) - a\psi_m(\alpha)^2 = 0\} \leftrightarrow \{P \in E(\bar{K}) : mP = (a, b)\}$$

$$\alpha_0 \mapsto (\alpha_0, br(\alpha_0)^{-1})$$

is a well defined bijection.

Hence there are  $m^2$  points  $P \in E(\bar{K})$  with  $mP = (a, b)$

So there are  $m^2$  elements in  $\text{Ker}[m]$ .

If  $p \mid m$ , the proof is the same except that  $\phi_m(x) - a\psi_m(x)^2$  has multiple roots!!

In fact  $\phi'_m(x) - a\psi'_m(x)^2 = 0$  □

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## From Lemma, Theorem follows:

If  $p \nmid m$ , apply classification Theorem of finite Groups:

$$E[m] \cong C_{n_1} \oplus C_{n_2} \oplus \cdots C_{n_k},$$

$n_i \mid n_{i+1}$ . Let  $\ell \mid n_1$ , then  $E[\ell] \subset E[m]$ . Hence  $\ell^k = \ell^2 \Rightarrow k = 2$ . So

$$E[m] \cong C_{n_1} \oplus C_{n_2}$$

Finally  $n_2 \mid m$  and  $n_1 n_2 = m^2$  so  $m = n_1 = n_2$ .

If  $p \mid m$ , write  $m = p^j m'$ ,  $p \nmid m'$  and

$$E[m] \cong E[m'] \oplus E[p^j] \cong C_{m'} \oplus C_{m'} \oplus E[p^j]$$

The statement follows from:

$$E[p^j] \cong \begin{cases} \{\infty\} \\ C_{p^j} \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad C_{m'} \oplus C_{p^j} \cong C_{m' p^j}$$

which is done by induction.



## From Lemma, Theorem follows (continues)

Induction base:

$$E[p] \cong \begin{cases} \{\infty\} \\ C_p \end{cases} \quad \text{if follows from } \#E[p] < p^2$$

- If  $E[p] = \{\infty\} \Rightarrow E[p^j] = \{\infty\} \forall j \geq 2$ :  
In fact if  $E[p^j] \neq \{\infty\}$  then it would contain some element of order  $p$  (contradiction).
- If  $E[p] \cong C_p$ , then  $E[p^j] \cong C_{p^j} \forall j \geq 2$ :  
In fact  $E[p^j]$  is cyclic (otherwise  $E[p]$  would not be cyclic!)

**Fact:**  $[p] : E(\bar{K}) \rightarrow E(\bar{K})$  is surjective (to be proven tomorrow)

If  $P \in E$  and  $\text{ord } P = p^{j-1} \Rightarrow \exists Q \in E$  s.t.  $pQ = P$  and  $Q = p^j$ .

Hence  $E[p^j] \cong C_{p^j}$  since it contains an element of order  $p^j$ .

**Remark:**

- $E[2m+1] \setminus \{\infty\} = \{(x, y) \in E(\bar{K}) : \psi_{2m+1}(x) = 0\}$
- $E[2m] \setminus E[2] = \{(x, y) \in E(\bar{K}) : y^{-1}\psi_{2m}(x) = 0\}$





## Theorem (Hasse)

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Then the order of  $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  satisfies

$$|q + 1 - \#E(\mathbb{F}_q)| \leq 2\sqrt{q}.$$

So  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) \in [(\sqrt{q} - 1)^2, (\sqrt{q} + 1)^2]$  the Hasse interval  $\mathcal{I}_q$

## Example (Hasse Intervals)

$q$	$\mathcal{I}_q$
2	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5}
3	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7}
4	{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9}
5	{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10}
7	{3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13}
8	{4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14}
9	{4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16}
11	{6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18}
13	{7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21}
16	{9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 25}
17	{10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26}
19	{12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28}
23	{15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33}
25	{16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36}
27	{18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38}
29	{20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40}
31	{21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43}
32	{22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44}

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## Theorem (Waterhouse)

Let  $q = p^n$  and let  $N = q + 1 - a$ .

$$\exists E/\mathbb{F}_q \text{ s.t. } \#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = N \Leftrightarrow |a| \leq 2\sqrt{q} \text{ and}$$

one of the following is satisfied:

- (i)  $\gcd(a, p) = 1$ ;
- (ii)  $n$  even and one of the following is satisfied:
  - ①  $a = \pm 2\sqrt{q}$ ;
  - ②  $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{3}$ , and  $a = \pm\sqrt{q}$ ;
  - ③  $p \not\equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , and  $a = 0$ ;
- (iii)  $n$  is odd, and one of the following is satisfied:
  - ①  $p = 2$  or  $3$ , and  $a = \pm p^{(n+1)/2}$ ;
  - ②  $a = 0$ .

**Example ( $q$  prime  $\forall N \in I_q, \exists E/\mathbb{F}_q, \#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = N$ .  $q$  not prime:)**

$q$	$a \in$
$4 = 2^2$	$\{-4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$
$8 = 2^3$	$\{-5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$
$9 = 3^2$	$\{-6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6\}$
$16 = 2^4$	$\{-8, -7, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8\}$
$25 = 5^2$	$\{-10, -9, -8, -7, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$
$27 = 3^3$	$\{-10, -9, -8, -7, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10\}$
$32 = 2^5$	$\{-11, -10, -9, -8, -7, -6, -5, -4, -3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11\}$



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## Theorem (Rück)

Suppose  $N$  is a possible order of an elliptic curve  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$ ,  $q = p^n$ .

Write

$$N = p^e n_1 n_2, \quad p \nmid n_1 n_2 \quad \text{and} \quad n_1 \mid n_2 \quad (\text{possibly } n_1 = 1).$$

There exists  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  s.t.

$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong C_{n_1} \oplus C_{n_2 p^e}$$

if and only if

- ①  $n_1 = n_2$  in the case (ii).1 of Waterhouse's Theorem;
- ②  $n_1 \mid q - 1$  in all other cases of Waterhouse's Theorem.

## Example

- If  $q = p^{2n}$  and  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = q + 1 \pm 2\sqrt{q} = (p^n \pm 1)^2$ , then










$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong C_{p^n \pm 1} \oplus C_{p^n \pm 1}.$$

- Let  $N = 100$  and  $q = 101 \Rightarrow \exists E_1, E_2, E_3, E_4/\mathbb{F}_{101}$  s.t.

$$E_1(\mathbb{F}_{101}) \cong C_{10} \oplus C_{10} \quad E_2(\mathbb{F}_{101}) \cong C_2 \oplus C_{50}$$

$$E_3(\mathbb{F}_{101}) \cong C_5 \oplus C_{20} \quad E_4(\mathbb{F}_{101}) \cong C_{100}$$

## Further Reading...

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