



Math for the people, by the people.

## Faltings' theorem

Canonical name	FaltingsTheorem
Date of creation	2013-03-22 15:57:21
Last modified on	2013-03-22 15:57:21
Owner	alozano (2414)
Last modified by	alozano (2414)
Numerical id	5
Author	alozano (2414)
Entry type	Theorem
Classification	msc 14G05
Classification	msc 14H99
Synonym	Mordell's conjecture
Related topic	SiegelsTheorem

Let  $K$  be a number field and let  $C/K$  be a non-singular curve defined over  $K$  and genus  $g$ . When the genus is 0, the curve is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{P}^1$  (over an algebraic closure  $\overline{K}$ ) and therefore  $C(K)$  is either empty or equal to  $\mathbb{P}^1(K)$  (in particular  $C(K)$  is infinite). If the genus of  $C$  is 1 and  $C(K)$  contains at least one point over  $K$  then  $C/K$  is an elliptic curve and the Mordell-Weil theorem shows that  $C(K)$  is a finitely generated abelian group (in particular,  $C(K)$  may be finite or infinite). However, if  $g \geq 2$ , Mordell conjectured in 1922 that  $C(K)$  cannot be infinite. This was first proven by Faltings in 1983.

**Theorem** (Faltings' Theorem (Mordell's conjecture)). *Let  $K$  be a number field and let  $C/K$  be a non-singular curve defined over  $K$  of genus  $g \geq 2$ . Then  $C(K)$  is finite.*

The reader may also be interested in Siegel's theorem.