

# Elliptic Curves over $\mathbb{C}$ and over Finite Fields

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# 1 Algebraic Varieties

The projective space  $\mathbb{P}^n$  can be covered by copies of  $\mathbb{A}^n$ . Define

$$U_i := \{[x_0, \dots, x_n] \in \mathbb{P}^n \mid x_i \neq 0\},$$

then  $U_i$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{A}^n$  via the chart

$$\phi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{A}^n, [x_0, \dots, x_n] \mapsto \left( \frac{x_1}{x_i}, \dots, \frac{x_{i-1}}{x_i}, \frac{x_{i+1}}{x_i}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{x_i} \right)$$

**Notation.** Thanks to the above isomorphism, we can see  $\mathbb{A}^n$  as a chosen  $U_i \subset \mathbb{P}^n$ . Hence we can see any affine variety  $V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  as a subset of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ . Similarly, if  $V \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  is a projective variety, then for a chosen  $\mathbb{A}^n \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ ,  $V \cap \mathbb{A}^n$  is an affine variety.

**Definition 1.1.** For  $V \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  a subset, we define  $\overline{V}$  the (Zariski) *closure*, the closure of  $V$  in the Zariski topology of  $\mathbb{P}^n$ .

**Proposition 1.1.** 1. For  $V$  an affine variety,  $\overline{V}$  is a projective variety, and

$$V = \overline{V} \cap \mathbb{A}^n.$$

2. Let  $V$  be a projective variety. Then  $V \cap \mathbb{A}^n$  is an affine variety, and either

$$V \cap \mathbb{A}^n = \emptyset \text{ or } V = \overline{V \cap \mathbb{A}^n}$$

*Proof.* 1. Follows from Lemma 3.5 from the course "Algebraic curves".

2. Suppose  $V \cap \mathbb{A}^n \neq \emptyset$ . We have that  $V \supseteq V \cap \mathbb{A}^n$  and  $V$  is closed, hence  $V \supseteq \overline{V \cap \mathbb{A}^n}$ .  $V \setminus \mathbb{A}^n$  is closed, and

$$V = \overline{V \cap \mathbb{A}^n} \cup (V \setminus \mathbb{A}^n).$$

By irreducibility of  $V$  and the fact  $V \cap \mathbb{A}^n \neq \emptyset$  and so  $V \neq (V \setminus \mathbb{A}^n)$ , we get  $V = \overline{V \cap \mathbb{A}^n}$ . □

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{A}^n$  be an affine variety,  $P \in V$  and  $f_1, \dots, f_m \in K[X_1, \dots, X_n]$  a set of generators of  $I(V)$ . Then  $V$  is *non-singular*, or *smooth* at  $P$  if the Jacobian of  $(f_1, \dots, f_m)$  at  $P$  has rank  $n - \dim(V)$ . If  $V$  is non-singular at every point, then  $V$  is *non-singular*, or *smooth*.

**Definition 1.3.** Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  be a projective variety,  $P \in V$  and choose  $\mathbb{A}^n \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  such that  $P \in \mathbb{A}^n$ . Then  $V$  is *non-singular*, or *smooth* at  $P$  if  $V \cap \mathbb{A}^n$  is smooth at  $P$  (as an affine variety).

**Proposition 1.2.** Let  $V \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  be a projective variety, for any  $\mathbb{A}^n \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$ ,  $K(V) = K(V \cap \mathbb{A}^n)$ .

*Proof.* Follows from Proposition 3.11 from the course "Algebraic curves".  $\square$

**Definition 1.4.** Let  $V_1 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n, V_2 \subseteq \mathbb{P}^m$  be projective varieties. A *rational map* from  $V_1$  to  $V_2$  is a map of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : V_1 &\rightarrow V_2 \\ P &\mapsto [f_0(P), \dots, f_m(P)],\end{aligned}$$

where  $f_0, \dots, f_m \in K(V_1)$  are such that for all  $P \in V_1$  at which  $f_0, \dots, f_m$  are all defined,  $\phi(P) \in V_2$ .

**Definition 1.5.** A rational map  $\phi = [f_0, \dots, f_m] : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  is *regular* at  $P \in V_1$  if there is a function  $g \in K(V_1)$ , such that

- (i) each  $gf_i$  is regular at  $P$
- (ii) for some  $i$ ,  $(gf_i)(P) \neq 0$

If such a  $g$  exists, we set

$$\phi(P) = [(gf_0)(P), \dots, (gf_m)(P)]$$

**Proposition 1.3.** Let  $\phi = [f_0, \dots, f_m] : V_1 \rightarrow V_2$  be a rational map. Then  $\phi$  is regular at all  $P \in V_1$  if and only if  $\phi$  is a morphism.

*Proof.* Suppose first that  $\phi$  is a morphism, let  $P \in V_1$ . Choose  $i$  such that  $\phi(P) \in U_i \subseteq V_2$ , where  $U_i = \{[x_0, \dots, x_m] \in \mathbb{P}^m \mid x_i \neq 0\}$ . For each  $j$ , define the map

$$\begin{aligned}h_j : V_2 \cap U_i &\rightarrow K \\ [x_0, \dots, x_m] &\mapsto \frac{x_j}{x_i}\end{aligned}$$

By definition,  $h_j \in \mathcal{O}(V_2 \cap U_i)$ . Since  $\phi$  is a morphism, we get that  $h_j \circ \phi = \frac{f_j}{f_i} : \phi^{-1}(V_2 \cap U_i) \rightarrow K$  is regular. Setting  $g = 1/f_i \in K(V_1)$ , we get that  $gf_j$  is regular at  $P$  for all  $j$  and  $gf_i = 1 \neq 0$ . Hence  $\phi$  is regular at  $P$ .

For the other implication, suppose  $\phi$  is regular at all  $P \in V_1$ . Let  $W \subseteq V_2$  open and  $f \in \mathcal{O}(W)$ , we have to show that  $f \circ \phi : \phi^{-1}(W) \rightarrow K$  is regular. Let  $P \in \phi^{-1}(W)$ , then since  $\phi$  is regular at  $P$ , there exists  $g \in K(V_1)$  such that each  $gf_i$  is regular at  $P$  and for some  $i$ ,  $(gf_i)(P) \neq 0$ . Since  $f$  is regular at  $\phi(P)$ , there exist polynomials  $p, q \in K[x_0, \dots, x_m]$  homogeneous of the same degree with  $q(\phi(P)) \neq 0$  and  $f(Q) = \frac{p(Q)}{q(Q)}$  for all  $Q \in W \setminus q^{-1}(0)$ . Then

$$f \circ \phi = \frac{p(f_0, \dots, f_m)}{q(f_0, \dots, f_m)} = \frac{p(gf_0, \dots, gf_m)}{q(gf_0, \dots, gf_m)}$$

We have that both  $p(gf_0, \dots, gf_m)$  and  $q(gf_0, \dots, gf_m)$  are regular. Furthermore,  $q(gf_0, \dots, gf_m)(P) = q(\phi(P)) \neq 0$  and hence we deduce that  $f \circ \phi$  is regular. This implies that  $\phi$  is a morphism.  $\square$

## 2 Algebraic Curves

**Proposition 2.1.** *Let  $C$  be a curve and  $P \in C$  a smooth point. Then  $K[C]_P$  is a discrete valuation ring.*

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $C$  be a curve and  $P \in C$  a smooth point. The *valuation* on  $K[C]_P$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ord}_P : K[C]_P &\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\} \\ f &\mapsto \max\{d \in \mathbb{N} \mid f \in \mathfrak{m}_P^d\}. \end{aligned}$$

We extend this definition to  $K(C)$  using

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ord}_P : K(C) &\rightarrow \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\} \\ f/g &\mapsto \text{ord}_P(f) - \text{ord}_P(g). \end{aligned}$$

For  $f \in K(C)$ , we call  $\text{ord}_P(f)$  the order of  $f$  at  $P$ . If  $\text{ord}_P(f) > 0$ , then  $f$  has a *zero* at  $P$ , if  $\text{ord}_P(f) < 0$ , then  $f$  has a *pole* at  $P$ , if  $\text{ord}_P(f) \geq 0$ , then  $f$  is *regular* at  $P$ .

A *uniformizer* for  $C$  at  $P$  is a function  $t \in K(C)$  with  $\text{ord}_P(t) = 1$  (so a generator of  $\mathfrak{m}_P$ )

**Proposition 2.2.** *Let  $C$  be a curve,  $V \subseteq \mathbb{P}^n$  a variety,  $P \in C$  a smooth point, and  $\phi : C \rightarrow V$  a rational map. Then  $\phi$  is regular at  $P$ . In particular, if  $C$  is smooth, then  $\phi$  is a morphism.*

**Theorem 2.3.** *Let  $\phi : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$  be a morphism of curves. Then  $\phi$  is either constant or surjective.*

**Definition 2.2.** Let  $\phi : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$  be a map of curves defined over  $K$ . If  $\phi$  is constant, we define the *degree* of  $\phi$  to be 0. Otherwise we define the degree of  $\phi$  by

$$\deg \phi = [K(C_1) : \phi^* K(C_2)]$$

Let  $S$  be the separable closure of  $\phi^* K(C_2)$  inside  $K(C_1)$ . we define the *separable degree* of  $\phi$  to be

$$\deg_s \phi = [S : \phi^* K(C_2)]$$

and the *inseparable degree*

$$\deg_i \phi = [K(C_1) : S].$$

**Definition 2.3.** Let  $\phi : C_1 \rightarrow C_2$  be a non-constant map of smooth curves, and let  $P \in C_1$ . The *ramification index* of  $\phi$  at  $P$ , denoted  $e_\phi(P)$ , is given by

$$e_\phi(P) = \text{ord}_P(\phi^* t_{\phi(P)})$$

where  $t_{\phi(P)} \in K(C_2)$  is a uniformizer at  $\phi(P)$ . We say that  $\phi$  is *unramified* at  $P$  if  $e_\phi(P) = 1$ .  $\phi$  is *unramified* if it is unramified at every point  $C_1$ .

**Definition 2.4.** Suppose  $\text{char}(K) = p \neq 0$  and let  $q = p^r$ . For any polynomial  $f \in K[X]$  define  $f^{(q)}$  to be the polynomial obtained from  $f$  by raising each coefficient of  $f$  to the  $q^{\text{th}}$  power. For any curve  $C/K$  we can define a new curve  $C^{(q)}/K$  corresponding to the ideal generated by  $\{f^{(q)} : f \in I(C)\}$ .

The  $q^{\text{th}}$ -power Frobenius morphism is defined by

$$\begin{aligned}\phi : C &\rightarrow C^{(q)} \\ [x_0, \dots, x_n] &\mapsto [x_0^q, \dots, x_n^q]\end{aligned}$$

This map is well defined as for any  $P = [x_0, \dots, x_n] \in C$ , and for any generator  $f^{(q)}$  of  $I(C^{(q)})$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}f^{(q)}(\phi(P)) &= f^{(q)}(x_0^q, \dots, x_n^q) \\ &= (f(x_0, \dots, x_n))^q && \text{since } \text{char}(K) = p \\ &= (f(P))^q = 0\end{aligned}$$

**Definition 2.5.** The *divisor group of a curve*  $C$ , denoted  $\text{Div}(C)$  is the free abelian group generated by the points of  $C$ . We write  $D \in \text{Div}(C)$  as the formal sum

$$D = \sum_{P \in C} n_P(P)$$

with  $n_P \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $n_P = 0$  for all but finitely many  $P \in C$ .

The *degree* of  $D$  is defined by

$$\deg D = \sum_{P \in C} n_P.$$

The *divisors of degree 0* form a subgroup of  $\text{Div}(C)$ , which we denote by

$$\text{Div}^0(C) = \{D \in \text{Div}(C) \mid \deg D = 0\}.$$

**Definition 2.6.** Let  $C$  be a smooth curve and  $f \in K(C) \setminus \{0\}$ . We associate to  $f$  the divisor  $\text{div}(f)$  given by

$$\text{div}(f) = \sum_{P \in C} \text{ord}_P(f)(P)$$

*Remark.* Since each  $\text{ord}_P$  is a valuation, the map

$$\text{div} : K(C)^\times \rightarrow \text{Div}(C)$$

is a homomorphism of abelian groups.

**Definition 2.7.** A divisor  $D \in \text{Div}(C)$  is *principal* if it has the form  $D = \text{div}(f)$  for some  $f \in K(C)$ . Two divisors  $D_1, D_2$  are *linearly equivalent*, which we denote  $D_1 \sim D_2$ , if  $D_1 - D_2$  is principal.

### 3 Basic Definitions and Facts

#### 3.1 Weierstrass Equation

Our main interest are *elliptic curves*, which are curves in  $\mathbb{P}^2$  of genus 1. These are characterized by the homogeneous equation

$$Y^2Z + aXYZ + bYZ^2 = X^3 + cX^2Z + dXZ^2 + eZ^3 \quad (1)$$

for some  $a, b, c, d, e \in \mathbb{F}$ . Setting  $U_Z = \{[X, Y, Z] \in \mathbb{P}^2 \mid Z \neq 0\}$ , we can study the solutions of (1) on  $U_Z$  using the change of coordinates  $x = X/Z$  and  $y = Y/Z$ . We obtain the following equation

$$y^2 + axy + by = x^3 + cx^2 + dx + e \quad (2)$$

We can further simplify this equation with linear changes of variables. First notice that if  $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$ , the left hand side can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} y(y + ax + b) &= (y + \frac{1}{2}(ax + b) - \frac{1}{2}(ax + b))(y + \frac{1}{2}(ax + b) + \frac{1}{2}(ax + b)) \\ &= (y + \frac{1}{2}(ax + b))^2 - \frac{1}{4}(ax + b)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Hence by replacing  $y$  with  $y + \frac{1}{2}(ax + b)$  and collecting the terms in each monomial, we get an equation of the form

$$y^2 = x^3 + \alpha x^2 + \beta x + \gamma \quad (3)$$

If  $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 3$ , we can also get rid of the term in  $x^2$  with a linear change of variables. replacing  $x$  with  $x - \frac{1}{3}\alpha$  yields

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 &= (x - \frac{1}{3}\alpha)^3 + \alpha(x - \frac{1}{3}\alpha)^2 + \beta(x - \frac{1}{3}\alpha) + \gamma \\ &= x^3 - \alpha x^2 + \frac{1}{3}\alpha^2 x - \frac{1}{27}\alpha^3 + \alpha x^2 - \frac{2}{3}\alpha^2 x + \frac{1}{9}\alpha^3 + \beta x - \frac{1}{3}\alpha\beta + \gamma \end{aligned}$$

Collecting the terms in each monomial, we get an equation of the form

$$y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B \quad (4)$$

with  $A, B \in \mathbb{F}$ . Plugging back the substitutions  $x = X/Z$  and  $y = Y/Z$ , we obtain the homogeneous equation

$$Y^2Z = X^3 + AXZ^2 + BZ^3 \quad (5)$$

#### 3.2 Singularities

We suppose  $\mathbb{F}$  is algebraically closed.

We have that an elliptic curve  $V \subset \mathbb{P}_2(\mathbb{F})$  is the projective variety

$$V = V(X^3 + AXZ^2 + BZ^3 - Y^2Z) = V(F) \quad (6)$$

We are interested in the case where the curve is smooth. By the regular preimage theorem,  $V$  is smooth if all its points are non-singular, i.e. if for all  $P = [x, y, z] \in V$ ,

$$\nabla F(P) = \begin{bmatrix} 3x^2 + Az^2 \\ -2yz \\ 2Axz + 3Bz^2 - y^2 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$$

If  $P = [0, 1, 0]$ , then

$$\nabla F(P) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \neq 0$$

hence the point at infinity is never singular. It follows that when looking for singularities, we can consider just the case where  $z \neq 0$ , since else we have necessarily  $x = 0$  and so  $P = [0, 1, 0]$ . So if there are any singularities of  $V$ , they are on  $V \cap U_Z$ . So  $V$  is non-singular precisely when  $V \cap U_Z$  is non-singular. Using the isomorphism  $V \cap U_Z \rightarrow W, [X, Y, Z] \mapsto (\frac{X}{Z}, \frac{Y}{Z})$  it suffices to study singularities on  $W = V(x^3 + Ax + B - y^2) = V(f)$

Let  $\Delta = 4A^3 + 27B^2$  be the discriminant of the polynomial  $g(x) = x^3 + Ax + B$ , we have the following criteria for the existence of singularities of  $V$ .

**Proposition 3.1.**  *$W$  (and equivalently  $V$ ) is non-singular if and only if  $\Delta \neq 0$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose there is a point  $P = (x_0, y_0) \in W$  that is singular, then we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 3x_0^2 + A \\ -2y_0 \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

Hence we have that  $g'(x_0) = 3x_0^2 + A = 0$  and  $y_0 = 0$ . In particular, since  $P \in W$ , also  $g(x_0) = 0$ , and hence since  $g(x_0) = g'(x_0) = 0$ ,  $x_0$  is a double root of  $g$  and so the discriminant  $\Delta = 4A^3 + 27B^2$  of  $g$  is zero.

Suppose instead that  $\Delta = 0$ , then  $g$  admits a double root  $x_0 \in \mathbb{F}$  (since we supposed  $\mathbb{F}$  algebraically closed) which is unique since  $g$  is a cubic polynomial. Then  $P = (x_0, 0) \in V$ . Furthermore,

$$\nabla f(P) = \begin{bmatrix} 3x^2 + A \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We have that  $3x^2 + A = g'(x) = 0$ , hence  $\nabla f(P) = 0$  and so  $W$  is singular at  $P$ .  $\square$

### 3.3 Group Law

## 4 Elliptic Curves over $\mathbb{C}$

The goal of this section is to show an elliptic curve is isomorphic to a torus as a Riemann surface.

First, let's discuss the Riemann surface structure that an elliptic curve has.

**Definition 4.1.** The *complex topology* on  $\mathbb{P}^n$  is the quotient topology induced by the Euclidean topology on  $\mathbb{C}^{n+1}$ .

Throughout this section we will consider  $\mathbb{P}^n$  with the complex topology, and hence an elliptic curve  $E(\mathbb{C}) \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  will be equipped with the subspace topology.

**Proposition 4.1.** *Let  $E(\mathbb{C}) \subset \mathbb{P}^2$  be an elliptic curve, then  $E(\mathbb{C})$  admits the structure of a Riemann surface.*

*Proof.* Let  $y^2 - x^3 - ax - b = f(x, y) = 0$  be the equation defining  $E(\mathbb{C})$ . So for all  $P = (x_P, y_P) \in E(\mathbb{C})$  with  $y_P \neq 0$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(P) \neq 0$  and hence by the implicit function theorem there exists an open set  $V_P \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  containing  $x_P$  and an analytic function  $g_P : V_P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , such that  $g_P(x_P) = y_P$  and  $f(x, g_P(x)) = 0$  for all  $x \in V_P$ . Furthermore  $U_P = (\text{id} \times g_P)(V_P) \subset E(\mathbb{C})$ , is an open subset of  $E(\mathbb{C})$ . Indeed,  $U_P = \pi_x^{-1}(V_P)$ , where  $\pi_x : E(\mathbb{C}) \setminus \{O\} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, (x, y) \mapsto x$ . Hence we define  $\phi_P = \pi_x|_{U_P}$  which is a homeomorphism to its image  $\phi_P(U_P) = V_P$  (the inverse to which is given by  $x \mapsto (x, g_P(x))$ ).

For all  $P = (x_P, 0) \in E(\mathbb{C})$  we define the chart  $\phi_P : U_P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  similarly, except we inverse the roles of  $x$  and  $y$  in the above reasoning. Indeed,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(P) \neq 0$ , since  $E(\mathbb{C})$  is smooth, hence we get the existence of  $V_P \subset \mathbb{C}$  containing  $y_P$  and  $h_P : V_P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ , such that  $h_P(y_P) = x_P$  and  $f(h_P(y), y) = 0$  for all  $y \in V_P$ . We set  $U_P := (h_P \times \text{id})(V_P)$  and  $\phi_P : U_P \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, (x, y) \mapsto y$ .

Finally, we have yet to define a chart whose domain covers the point at infinity  $O = [0, 1, 0] \in E(\mathbb{C})$ . To do this, we can look at  $E(\mathbb{C})$  in  $\{[X, Y, Z] \in \mathbb{P}^2 \mid Y \neq 0\}$  instead. We get that in this copy of  $\mathbb{A}^2$ ,  $E(\mathbb{C})$  is given by the equation.

$$z - x^3 - axz^2 - bz^3 = \tilde{f}(x, z) = 0.$$

We have that  $\frac{\partial \tilde{f}}{\partial z}(O) = 1 \neq 0$ , hence we can again apply the reasoning from above. We obtain the chart  $\phi_O : U_O \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, [x, 1, z] \mapsto x$  with inverse  $\phi_O^{-1} : \phi_O(U_O) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}, x \mapsto [x, 1, \tilde{g}(x)]$ .

Now let  $P, Q \in E(\mathbb{C}) \setminus \{O\}$ , with  $y_P \neq 0$  and  $y_Q = 0$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_P \circ \phi_Q^{-1}(y) &= \phi_P(h_Q(y), y) = h_Q(y) \\ \phi_Q \circ \phi_P^{-1}(x) &= \phi_Q(x, g_P(x)) = g_P(x) \\ \phi_P \circ \phi_O^{-1}(x) &= \phi_P([x, 1, \tilde{g}(x)]) = \phi_P\left(\frac{x}{\tilde{g}(x)}, \frac{1}{\tilde{g}(x)}\right) = \frac{x}{\tilde{g}(x)} \\ \phi_O \circ \phi_P^{-1}(x) &= \phi_O(x, g_P(x)) = \phi_O\left(\left[\frac{x}{g_P(x)}, 1, \frac{1}{g_P(x)}\right]\right) = \frac{x}{g_P(x)} \end{aligned}$$



All of these transition maps are holomorphic and by transitivity so are  $\phi_O \circ \phi_Q^{-1}$  and  $\phi_Q \circ \phi_O^{-1}$ . Hence the atlas  $\mathcal{A} = \{\phi_P \mid P \in E(\mathbb{C})\}$  is holomorphic and so gives  $E(\mathbb{C})$  the structure of a Riemann surface.  $\square$

Let's introduce the definition and some basic properties of elliptic functions. For the rest of this section, let  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  be an arbitrary lattice.

**Definition 4.2.** An *elliptic function* (relative to the lattice  $\Lambda$ ) is a meromorphic function  $f$  on  $\mathbb{C}$ , which satisfies

$$f(z + \lambda) = f(z) \quad \text{for all } \lambda \in \Lambda, z \in \mathbb{C}$$

**Notation.** The set of elliptic functions relative to the lattice  $\Lambda$  is denoted  $\mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$ .

*Remark.*  $\mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$  is a field with the usual operations of addition and multiplication of complex functions.

**Definition 4.3.** A *fundamental parallelogram* for  $\Lambda$  is a set of the form

$$D = \{a + r\lambda_1 + s\lambda_2 \mid r, s \in [0, 1)\},$$

where  $a \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  is a basis for  $\Lambda$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** An elliptic function with no poles (or no zeros) is constant.

**Notation.** For  $f \in \mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{C}/\Lambda$ , we write  $f(z)$ ,  $\text{res}_z(f)$  and  $\text{ord}_z(f)$  for  $f(\bar{z})$ ,  $\text{res}_{\bar{z}}(f)$  and  $\text{ord}_{\bar{z}}(f)$  respectively, for any one representative  $\bar{z} \in \mathbb{C}$  of the coset  $z$ . This is well defined by the  $\Lambda$ -periodicity of  $f$ .

**Proposition 4.3.** Let  $f \in \mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$ .

$$(a) \sum_{z \in \mathbb{C}/\Lambda} \text{res}_z(f) = 0.$$

$$(b) \sum_{z \in \mathbb{C}/\Lambda} \text{ord}_z(f) = 0.$$

Next let us introduce the Weierstrass  $\wp$ -function, which will serve as a connecting link between elliptic curves and elliptic functions.

**Definition 4.4.** (a) The Weierstrass elliptic function ( $\wp$ -function), is defined by the series

$$\wp(z; \Lambda) = \frac{1}{z^2} + \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus \{0\}} \left( \frac{1}{(z - \lambda)^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \right)$$

(b) The Eisenstein series (of  $\Lambda$ ) of weight  $k$ , where  $k \geq 2$  is an integer is the series

$$G_k(\Lambda) = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus \{0\}} \lambda^{-k}$$

**Notation.** If  $\Lambda$  is known from context, we write simply  $\wp(z)$  and  $G_k$  for  $\wp(z; \Lambda)$ ,  $G_k(\Lambda)$  respectively.

**Proposition 4.4.** (a) *The Eisenstein series  $G_k(\Lambda)$  is absolutely convergent for all  $k \geq 3$ .*

(b) *The series defining the Weierstrass  $\wp$ -function converges absolutely and uniformly on every compact subset of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$ . It defines a meromorphic function on  $\mathbb{C}$  with double poles of residue 0 at each lattice point.*

(c) *The Weierstrass  $\wp$ -function is an even elliptic function.*

*Proof.* (a) Let  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2$  be basis vectors of  $\Lambda$ . Let

$$A_N := \{n\lambda_1 + m\lambda_2 \in \Lambda \mid n, m \in \mathbb{Z}, \max(|n|, |m|) = N\}.$$

Let also

$$m = \min\{|a\lambda_1 + b\lambda_2| \mid a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \max(|a|, |b|) = 1\},$$

then  $m$  is well defined and strictly positive, as it's the minimum of a compact subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , which does not contain zero. We have that

$$\#A_N = (2N+1)^2 - (2N-1)^2 = 8N.$$

Furthermore,  $\min\{|\lambda|, \lambda \in A_N\} \geq Nm$ , so we get

$$\sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus 0} \frac{1}{|\lambda|^k} \leq \sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \frac{\#A_N}{\min\{|\lambda|, \lambda \in A_N\}^k} = \sum_{N=1}^{\infty} \frac{8}{m^k N^{k-1}} < \infty.$$

(b) If  $|\lambda| > 2|z|$ , then we have that

$$|2\lambda - z| \leq 2|\lambda| + |z| \leq \frac{5}{2}|\lambda|$$

and

$$|z - \lambda| = |\lambda| \left| \frac{z}{\lambda} - 1 \right| \geq \frac{1}{2}|\lambda|.$$

These imply that

$$\left| \frac{1}{(z - \lambda)^2} - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \right| = \left| \frac{z(2\lambda - z)}{\lambda^2(z - \lambda)^2} \right| \leq 10 \frac{|z|}{|\lambda|^3}$$

Hence using (a) we see that for  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$ , the series for  $\wp(z)$  converges absolutely and uniformly on any compact subset of  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$ . It follows that the series defines a holomorphic function on  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$ , furthermore, it is clear from the series expansion that  $\wp$  has a double pole with residue 0 at each point of  $\Lambda$ .

(c) TO BE ADDED

□

**Theorem 4.5.** *We have that*

$$\mathbb{C}(\Lambda) = \mathbb{C}(\wp, \wp')$$

**Definition 4.5.** The *Weierstrass  $\sigma$ -function* (relative to  $\Lambda$ ) is the function defined by

$$\sigma(z; \Lambda) = z \prod_{\lambda \in \Lambda \setminus 0} \left(1 - \frac{z}{\lambda}\right) \exp\left(\frac{z}{\lambda} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{z}{\lambda}\right)^2\right)$$

**Notation.** As before, we write just  $\sigma(z)$  for  $\sigma(z; \Lambda)$  when  $\Lambda$  is clear from context.

**Proposition 4.6.** *Let  $n_1, \dots, n_r \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $z_1, \dots, z_n \in \mathbb{C}$ , such that*

$$\sum n_i = 0 \text{ and } \sum n_i z_i \in \Lambda.$$

*Then there exists an elliptic function  $f(z) \in \mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$  satisfying*

$$\text{div}(f) = \sum n_i(z_i).$$

**Proposition 4.7.** *For all  $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \Lambda$ , we have that*

$$\wp'(z)^2 = 4\wp(z)^3 - 60G_4\wp(z) - 140G_6$$

*Remark.* We write

$$g_2 = g_2(\Lambda) = 60G_4 \text{ and } g_3 = g_3(\Lambda) = 140G_6.$$

Then the equation in 4.7 becomes

$$\wp'(z)^2 = 4\wp(z)^3 - g_2\wp(z) - g_3$$

**Theorem 4.8.** *Let  $g_2, g_3$  be the quantities associated to  $\Lambda$  as in the above remark. Let  $E/\mathbb{C}$  be the curve given by the equation*

$$E : y^2 = 4x^3 - g_2x - g_3$$

*then  $E$  is an elliptic curve and the map*

$$\begin{aligned} \phi : \mathbb{C}/\Lambda &\rightarrow E \\ z &\mapsto \begin{cases} [\wp(z), \wp'(z), 1] & \text{if } z \notin \Lambda \\ [0, 1, 0] & \text{if } z \in \Lambda \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

*is a complex analytic isomorphism of complex Lie groups.*

*Proof.* To show  $E$  is an elliptic curve, we have to show that it is non-singular. From 3.1 this is the case if and only if the determinant  $\Delta$  of the polynomial  $f(x) = 4x^3 - g_2x - g_3$  is non-zero, in other words if and only if  $f$  has no

repeated roots. Let  $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2\}$  be a basis of  $\Lambda$ , let  $\lambda_3 = \lambda_1 + \lambda_2$ . then since  $\wp'$  is an odd elliptic function, we have that for  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$$\wp'(\lambda_i/2) = -\wp'(-\lambda_i/2) = -\wp'(\lambda_i/2)$$

and hence  $\wp'(\lambda_i/2) = 0$ . It follows from 4.7 that  $\wp(\lambda_i/2)$  is a root of  $f$ . So we need to show that the  $\wp(\lambda_i/2)$  are all distinct. The function  $\wp(z) - \wp(\lambda_i/2)$  has a double zero at  $\lambda_i/2$ , since its derivative is  $\wp'(z)$  which vanishes at  $\lambda_i/2$ . Using 4.3 and 4.4, we deduce that these are the only zeroes and hence the  $\wp(\lambda_i/2)$  are all distinct. Hence  $E$  is indeed an elliptic curve.

The image of  $\phi$  is contained in  $E(\mathbb{C})$  by 4.7. Let  $[x, y, 1] \in E(\mathbb{C})$ , then we have that  $\wp(z) - x$  is a non-constant elliptic function, so by 4.2, it has a zero  $a \in \mathbb{C}$ . Hence  $\wp(a) = x$  and hence by 4.7,

$$\wp'(a)^2 = f(\wp(a)) = f(x) = y^2.$$

It follows that  $\wp'(a) = \pm y$ , hence by replacing  $a$  with  $-a$  in the case  $\wp'(a) = -y$ , we get that  $\wp'(a) = y$ . Hence  $\phi(a) = [x, y, 1]$ . This shows the surjectivity of  $\phi$ .

Now to show injectivity, suppose  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$  are such that  $\phi(z_1) = \phi(z_2)$ . Suppose  $z_1 \not\equiv -z_1 \pmod{\Lambda}$ . The function  $\wp(z) - \wp(z_1)$  admits the roots  $z_1, -z_1, z_2$ , but being of order 2, two of these values are congruent mod  $\Lambda$ . Hence  $z_2 \equiv \pm z_1 \pmod{\Lambda}$ . But since  $\wp'(z_1) = \wp'(z_2)$ , we get necessarily  $z_2 \equiv z_1 \pmod{\Lambda}$ .

Now, if  $z_1 \equiv -z_1 \pmod{\Lambda}$ , then

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial z}(\wp(z) - \wp(z_1)) = \wp'(z)$$

and  $\wp'(z_1) = \wp'(-z_1) = -\wp'(z_1)$  and hence  $\wp'(z_1) = 0$ . It follows that  $z_1$  is a double root of  $\wp(z) - \wp(z_1)$ , which is of order 2. Hence  $z_2$ , being also a root of  $\wp(z) - \wp(z_1)$ , is necessarily congruent to  $z_1 \pmod{\Lambda}$ . This shows the injectivity of  $\phi$ .

Now we will show  $\phi$  is an isomorphism of Riemann surfaces. Denote by  $\xi : \mathbb{C} \mapsto \mathbb{C}/\Lambda$ , the quotient map. Then the charts of  $\mathbb{C}/\Lambda$  are given by local sections of  $\xi$ . Let  $z \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $U \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  containing  $z$  an open set such that  $\xi|_U$  is injective. Let  $\psi$  be a chart of  $E(\mathbb{C})$  which we can suppose (up to shrinking  $U$ ) to be defined on  $\phi(\xi(U))$ . Depending on the value of  $P = \phi(\xi(z))$ ,  $\psi$  will be of one of the three forms as described in the proof of Proposition 4.1. We get that

$$\psi \circ \phi \circ \xi = \begin{cases} \wp & \text{if } P \neq O \text{ and } \wp'(z) \neq 0 \\ \wp' & \text{if } P \neq O \text{ and } \wp'(z) = 0 \\ \frac{\wp}{\wp'} & \text{if } P = O \end{cases}$$

and hence  $\psi \circ \phi \circ \xi$  is holomorphic (and seen as a map to its image, it is bijective, and hence biholomorphic). Since  $\phi$  is bijective and locally biholomorphic, it is biholomorphic and hence an isomorphism of Riemann surfaces.

Finally, we want to show that  $\phi$  is a group homomorphism. Let  $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbb{C}$ , then from 4.6, there exists a function  $f \in \mathbb{C}(\Lambda)$  with divisor

$$\text{div}(f) = (z_1 + z_2) - (z_1) - (z_2) + (0)$$

Now, by 4.5, we can write  $f(z) = F(\wp(z), \wp'(z))$  for some rational function  $F(X, Y) \in \mathbb{C}(X, Y)$ . We can see  $F$  in

$$\mathbb{C}(E) = \mathbb{C}(E \cap \mathbb{A}^2) = \text{Frac}(\mathbb{C}[x, y]/(y^2 - 4x^3 + g_2x + g_3))$$

and hence  $f = F \circ \phi$ . It follows that

$$\text{div}(F) = (\phi(z_1 + z_2)) - (\phi(z_1)) - (\phi(z_2)) + (0)$$

By Proposition ??, it follows that

$$\phi(z_1 + z_2) = \phi(z_1) + \phi(z_2)$$

□

The following theorem (which we will not prove) gives the converse to 4.8

**Theorem 4.9.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{C}$  be a non-singular curve given by the equation*

$$E : y^2 = 4x^3 - ax - b.$$

*Then there exists a lattice  $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{C}$  unique up to homothety, such that  $a = g_2(\Lambda)$  and  $b = g_3(\Lambda)$*

Since any elliptic curve is isomorphic to a curve given by an equation as in 4.9, we deduce that all curves are homeomorphic to a torus  $\mathbb{T}^2$ . This allows us to calculate its homology groups.

To calculate the homology groups of a torus, we will use simplicial homology, as in [Hat01, §2.1]. The torus can be given a  $\Delta$ -complex structure as in Figure 1. The associated chain complex for taking simplicial homology is

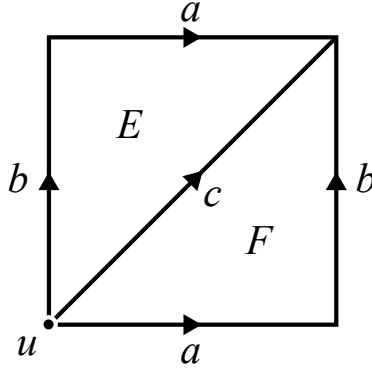


Figure 1:  $\Delta$ -complex structure of a torus

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdots & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & E\mathbb{Z} \oplus F\mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\partial_2} & a\mathbb{Z} \oplus b\mathbb{Z} \oplus c\mathbb{Z} & \xrightarrow{\partial_1} & u\mathbb{Z} & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ & & & & & & a, b, c & \longmapsto & 0 \\ & & & & E, F & \longmapsto & a + b - c \end{array}$$

Hence we get that

$$H_0(\mathbb{T}^2) \cong \mathbb{Z},$$

$$H_1(\mathbb{T}^2) = \ker \partial_1 / \operatorname{im} \partial_2 = a\mathbb{Z} \oplus b\mathbb{Z} \oplus c\mathbb{Z} / (a + b - c)\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z}^2,$$

$$H_2(\mathbb{T}^2) = \ker \partial_2 = (E - F)\mathbb{Z} \cong \mathbb{Z},$$

and  $H_n(\mathbb{T}^2) = 0$  for  $n \geq 3$ . We deduce that the associated Betti numbers are

$$b_0(\mathbb{T}^2) = \operatorname{rk}(\mathbb{Z}) = 1,$$

$$b_1(\mathbb{T}^2) = \operatorname{rk}(\mathbb{Z}^2) = 2,$$

$$b_2(\mathbb{T}^2) = \operatorname{rk}(\mathbb{Z}) = 1,$$

and  $b_n(\mathbb{T}^2) = 0$  for  $n \geq 3$ .

## 5 Elliptic Curves over Finite Fields

For this section we fix a prime  $p$  and  $q$  a power of  $p$ .

**Definition 5.1.** The zeta function of  $V/\mathbb{F}_q$  is defined as the power series

$$Z(V/\mathbb{F}_q; T) = \exp \left( \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\#V(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})) \frac{T^n}{n} \right)$$

**Notation.** When  $V/\mathbb{F}_q$  is known from context, we write simply  $Z(T)$  instead of  $Z(V/\mathbb{F}_q; T)$

**Theorem 5.1** (Weil Conjectures). *Let  $V/\mathbb{F}_q$  be a smooth projective variety of dimension  $N$ .*

(a) *Rationality:  $Z(T) \in \mathbb{Q}(T)$ . More precisely, there is a factorization*

$$Z(T) = \frac{P_1(T) \cdots P_{2n-1}(T)}{P_0(T)P_2(T) \cdots P_{2n}(T)},$$

*where  $P_0(T) = 1 - T$ ,  $P_{2n}(T) = 1 - q^n T$  and for each  $1 \leq i \leq 2n - 1$ ,  $P_i(T)$  factors (over  $\mathbb{C}$ ) as*

$$P_i(T) = \prod_j (1 - \alpha_{ij} T)$$

(b) *Functional Equation: The zeta function satisfies*

$$Z\left(\frac{1}{q^N T}\right) = \pm q^{N\frac{\epsilon}{2}} T^{\epsilon} Z(T),$$

*for some integer  $\epsilon$  (called the Euler characteristic of  $V$ )*

(c) *Riemann Hypothesis:  $|\alpha_{ij}| = q^{i/2}$  for all  $1 \leq i \leq 2n - 1$  and all  $j$ .*

(d) *Betti Numbers: If  $V/\mathbb{F}_q$  is a reduction mod  $p$  of a non-singular projective variety  $W/K$ , where  $K$  is a number field embedded in the field of complex numbers, then the degree of  $P_i$  is the  $i^{\text{th}}$  Betti number of the space of complex points of  $W$ .*

We will now verify Weil's conjecture for elliptic curves. For this we will make use of the homomorphism  $\text{End}(E) \rightarrow \text{End}(T_l(E)), \psi \mapsto \psi_l$ , where  $l$  is a prime different from  $p$ . If we fix a  $\mathbb{Z}_l$ -basis of  $T_l(E)$ , we can write  $\psi_l$  as a  $2 \times 2$  matrix and so we can compute  $\det(\psi_l), \text{tr}(\psi_l) \in \mathbb{Z}_l$ .

The following proposition tells us that these quantities are not only independent of the choice of basis, but also of the choice of  $l$ .

**Proposition 5.2.** *Let  $\psi \in \text{End}(E)$ . Then*

$$\det(\psi_l) = \deg(\psi) \text{ and } \text{tr}(\psi_l) = 1 + \deg(\psi) - \deg(1 - \psi).$$

*In particular,  $\det(\psi_l), \text{tr}(\psi_l) \in \mathbb{Z}$*

**Proposition 5.3.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  be an elliptic curve, and*

$$\phi : E \rightarrow E, (x, y) \mapsto (x^q, y^q)$$

*the  $q^{\text{th}}$  Frobenius endomorphism. Let  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{C}$  be the roots of the characteristic polynomial of  $\phi_l$ , that is*

$$\det(T - \phi_l) = T^2 - \text{tr}(\phi_l)T + \det(\phi_l),$$

*then  $\alpha, \beta$  are complex conjugates satisfying  $|\alpha| = |\beta| = \sqrt{q}$ . Furthermore, for every  $n \geq 1$ , we have*

$$\#E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}) = q^n + 1 - \alpha^n - \beta^n$$

*Proof.* Fix  $v_1, v_2$  a  $\mathbb{Z}_l$ -basis for  $T_l(E)$ , and write the matrix of  $\psi_l$  for this basis as

$$\psi_l = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}.$$

We have the non-degenerate, bilinear, alternating pairing

$$e : T_l(E) \times T_l(E) \rightarrow T_l(\mu)$$

□

**Theorem 5.4.** *Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  be an elliptic curve. Then there exists an  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that*

$$Z(T) = \frac{1 - aT + qT^2}{(1 - T)(1 - qT)}.$$

*Furthermore,*

$$Z\left(\frac{1}{qT}\right) = Z(T)$$

*and*

$$1 - aT + qT^2 = (1 - \alpha T)(1 - \beta T)$$

*with  $|\alpha| = |\beta| = \sqrt{q}$*

*Proof.* Using the definition of  $Z(E/\mathbb{F}_q; T)$ , we get

$$\begin{aligned} \log Z(E/\mathbb{F}_q; T) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\#E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})) \frac{T^n}{n} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (q^n + 1 - \alpha^n - \beta^n) \frac{T^n}{n} \quad (5.3) \\ &= -\log(1 - qT) - \log(1 - T) + \log(1 - \alpha T) + \log(1 - \beta T) \end{aligned}$$

and hence we get

$$Z(E/\mathbb{F}_q; T) = \frac{(1 - \alpha T)(1 - \beta T)}{(1 - T)(1 - qT)},$$



which has the desired form. Indeed from (5.3),  $|\alpha| = |\beta| = \sqrt{q}$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} a = \alpha + \beta &= \text{tr}(\phi_l) = 1 + \deg(\phi) - \deg(1 - \phi) \\ &= 1 + q - \#E(\mathbb{F}_q) \in \mathbb{Z}. \end{aligned}$$

□

Hence the Weil conjectures are verified for elliptic curves. Notice that using the notation from theorem 5.1,  $\deg P_0 = 1$ ,  $\deg P_1 = 2$ ,  $\deg P_2 = 1$ , hence we would expect the Betti numbers of  $E/\mathbb{C}$  to coincide with these values, and indeed, these are exactly the Betti numbers we calculated in Section 4.

## References

[Hat01] Allen Hatcher. *Algebraic Topology*. Cambridge University Press, 2001.