

Problems on Curves.

Work until ~ 3:20
 $m \in \mathbb{Q}$

1. Let L be the line $m(x+2)+3$ of slope m going through the point $(-2,3)$. This line intersects the elliptic curve $E_1: y^2 = x^3 + 17$ in the point $(-2,3)$ and in two other points. If all three of these points have rational coordinates, show that the quantity

$$m^4 + 12m^2 + 24m - 12$$

must be the square of a rational number.

$$L: y = m(x+2) + 3$$

$$E: y^2 = x^3 + 17$$

Find intersection $E \cap L$

$$(m(x+2)+3)^2 = x^3 + 17$$

$$m^2(x+2)^2 + 6m(x+2) + 9 = x^3 + 17$$

$$m^2(x^2 + 4x + 4) + 6m(x+2) + 9 = x^3 + 17$$

$$(*) \quad 0 = x^3 - m^2x^2 - (4m^2 + 6m)x - (4m^2 + 12m - 8)$$

We know $(-2,3) \in L \cap E$

$\Rightarrow -2$ solves $(*)$

$\Rightarrow x+2$ divides the RHS of $(*)$

$$\begin{array}{r} x^2 + (-m^2-2)x + (-2m^2-6m+4) \\ x+2 \overline{) x^3 - m^2x^2 - (4m^2+6m)x - (4m^2+12m-8)} \end{array}$$

$$- \underline{x^3 + 2x^2}$$

$$(-m^2-2)x^2 - (4m^2+6m)x$$

$$- \underline{(-m^2-2)x^2 (-2m^2-4)x}$$

$$(-2m^2-6m+4)x - (4m^2+12m-8)$$

$$\underline{(-2m^2-6m+4)x + (-4m^2-12m+8)}$$

0

$$\Rightarrow 0 = (x+2)(x^2 - (m^2+2)x - (2m^2+6m-4))$$

roots are -2 , roots $\uparrow r_+, r_-$

$$r_{\pm} = \frac{m^2+2 \pm [(m^2+2)^2 + 4(2m^2+6m-4)]^{1/2}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[m^2+2 \pm (m^4+12m^2+24m-12)^{1/2} \right]$$

$$\in \mathbb{Q}$$

$$\Rightarrow (m^4+12m^2+24m-12)^{1/2} \in \mathbb{Q}$$

$\Rightarrow m^4+12m^2+24m-12$ is the square of a rational \square

4. Show that the only integer point on $y^2 = x^3 - 1$ is $(1, 0)$.

$$\begin{aligned}x^3 &= y^2 + 1 && \text{factor in } \underline{\mathbb{Z}[i]} \\&= (y+i)(y-i)\end{aligned}$$

Claim: if $y+i$ & $y-i$ are relatively prime,
then they must both be cubes.

$$\text{suppose } \gcd(y+i, y-i) = 1$$

$\Rightarrow y \pm i$ are cubes.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Suppose } y+i &= (m+in)^3 \quad m, n \in \mathbb{Z} \\&= m^3 + 3m^2(in) + 3m(in)^2 + (in)^3 \\&= (m^3 - 3mn^2) + (3m^2n - n^3)i\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow y &= m^3 - 3mn^2, && \left| \begin{array}{l} 3m^2n - n^3 = 1 \\ n(3m^2 - n^2) \end{array} \right. \\&= m(m^2 - 3n^2) && \Rightarrow n = \pm 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{If } n=1 &\Rightarrow 3m^2 - 1 = 1 \Rightarrow 3m^2 = 2 \\&\Rightarrow m^2 = 2/3 \\&\text{no solns} \Rightarrow n \neq 1\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{if } n = -1 \Rightarrow 3m^2 - 1 = -1$$

$$\Rightarrow 3m^2 = 0 \Rightarrow m = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow y = m(m^2 - 3n^2) = 0$$

$$\underline{y^2 = x^3 - 1} \Rightarrow x = 1$$

need to show $\gcd(y+i, y-i) = 1$

suppose $\delta \in \mathbb{Z}[i]$ is a common divisor

$$\Rightarrow \delta \text{ divides } (y+i) - (y-i) = 2i$$

$$\Rightarrow N(\delta) \mid N(2i) = 4$$

$$N(y+i) = (y+i)(y-i) = y^2 + 1 = x^3$$

which is odd

$$y^2 = x^3 - 1 \Rightarrow x^3 = y^2 + 1 \quad (\text{look mod } \delta)$$

$$N(\delta) \mid N(y+i) \Rightarrow N(\delta) \text{ odd}$$

$$\Rightarrow N(\delta) = 1, \text{ so } \delta \text{ is a unit} \quad \square$$