

ELLIPTIC CURVES  
EXAMPLE SHEET 4

1. Determine the rank and a set of coset representatives for  $E(\mathbb{Q})/2E(\mathbb{Q})$  for the following elliptic curves:
  - (a)  $y^2 = x(x-3)(x+4)$
  - (b)  $y^2 = x(x-1)(x+3)$
  - (c)  $y^2 = x(x+1)(x-14)$

2. (Fibonacci) By an appropriate transformation, show that common solutions to the pair of equations

$$u^2 + v^2 = z^2, \quad u^2 - v^2 = w^2$$

lead to points on a certain elliptic curve  $E$ . Determine  $E(\mathbb{Q})$  and use it solve the equations (remember the solution  $u = v = z = w = 0$  is not allowed).

3. Is 219 a quadratic residue modulo 383?
4. You know that  $-1$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  and that 2 is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $p \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{8}$ . For which primes  $p$  is  $-2$  a quadratic residue? For which primes  $p$  is 3 a quadratic residue?
5. Suppose  $p, q$  are primes with  $p = 2q + 1$  and  $q \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ . Show that 2 is a primitive root modulo  $p$ .

**Hint:** Think about the structure of the group  $\mathbb{F}_p^*$ .