
Homework 6
Due: Friday, April 3

1. Recall the Bachet curve we studied at the beginning of the semester

$$E : y^2 = x^3 - 2. \tag{1}$$

- (a) For which primes p does E have good reduction at p ?
(b) By explicitly examining all possible x -coordinates of points, compute $\#E(\mathbb{F}_5)$ and $\#E(\mathbb{F}_7)$.
2. Suppose E/\mathbb{Q} is an elliptic curve. Let $T \subset E(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{tors}}$ be the torsion subgroup.

- (a) Show that, for each ℓ ,

$$\cup_{n \geq 1} E[\ell^n](\mathbb{Q})$$

is finite. (HINT: Choose a prime $p \neq \ell$ of good reduction for E .)

- (b) Show that T is finite. (HINT: Work with two different primes.)

3. Continue to work with the Bachet curve (1).

- (a) Show that the torsion group of $E(\mathbb{Q})$ is trivial.
(b) Show that $E(\mathbb{Q})$ is infinite. (HINT: $5^2 = 3^3 - 2$.)

4. Use the

Isogeny Theorem: Suppose E_1 and E_2 are elliptic curves over \mathbb{F}_q . Then the natural map

$$\text{Hom}(E_1, E_2) \otimes \mathbb{Z}_\ell \rightarrow \text{Hom}_{\text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_q)}(T_\ell E_1, T_\ell E_2)$$

is an isomorphism

to show that, for a pair of elliptic curves $E_1, E_2/\mathbb{F}_q$, E_1 and E_2 are isogenous if and only if $\#E_1(\mathbb{F}_q) = \#E_2(\mathbb{F}_q)$.

5. Recall that if X/\mathbb{F}_q is a variety, then its zeta function is

$$Z_{X/\mathbb{F}_q}(T) = \exp\left(\sum_{n \geq 1} \#X(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}) \frac{T^n}{n}\right).$$

Calculate $Z_{\mathbb{P}^1/\mathbb{F}_p}(T)$.