

Elliptic Curves

1.1 Weierstrass Equations

Definition 1.1. An (affine) elliptic curve E over a field \mathbb{F} is a curve which is given by an equation of the form

$$y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y = x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6. \quad (1.1)$$

1.2. If you define on the set of the terms $\{x^a y^b : (a, b) \in \mathbb{N}^2\}$, the weight function wt defined by $\text{wt}(x) = 2, \text{wt}(y) = 3$, remark that in (1.1) each coefficient a_i of a term τ has the value $i := 6 - \text{wt}(\tau)$.

Such mnemonics is preserved throughout all the reformulations of (1.1).

1.3. If we assume that $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$, we can perform the linear transformation $y \rightarrow y - \frac{a_1x - a_3}{2}$ obtaining the equation

$$y^2 = x^3 + \frac{a_1^2 + 4a_2}{4}x^2 + \frac{a_1a_3 + 2a_4}{2}x + \frac{a_3^2 + 4a_6}{4} =: x^3 + \frac{b_2}{4}x^2 + \frac{b_4}{2}x + \frac{b_6}{4}. \quad (1.2)$$

1.4. If moreover $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 3$, the linear transformation $x \rightarrow x - \frac{b_2}{12}$ produces the equation

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 &= \left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}\right)^3 + \frac{b_2}{4} \left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}\right)^2 + \frac{b_4}{2} \left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}\right) + \frac{b_6}{4} \\ &= x^3 + \left(3 \cdot \frac{b_2^2}{12^2} - 2 \frac{b_2}{4} \frac{b_2}{12} + \frac{b_4}{2}\right)x + \left(-\frac{b_2^3}{12^3} + \frac{b_2}{4} \frac{b_2^2}{12^2} - \frac{b_4}{2} \frac{b_2}{12} + \frac{b_6}{4}\right) \\ &= x^3 + \left(\left(\frac{3}{12^2} - \frac{2}{48}\right)b_2^2 + \frac{b_4}{2}\right)x + \left(\left(-\frac{1}{12^3} + \frac{1}{4 \cdot 12^2}\right)b_2^3 - \frac{b_2b_4}{24} + \frac{b_6}{4}\right) \\ &= x^3 + \left(\frac{1-2}{48}b_2^2 + \frac{b_4}{2}\right)x + \left(\frac{-1+3}{2^6 3^3}b_2^3 + \frac{b_2b_4}{24} + \frac{b_6}{4}\right) \\ &= x^3 - \frac{b_2^2 - 24b_4}{48}x + \left(\frac{-b_2^3 + 36b_2b_4 - 216b_6}{2^5 3^3}\right) \\ &= x^3 - \frac{b_2^2 - 24b_4}{48}x - \frac{-b_2^3 + 36b_2b_4 - 216b_6}{864} \\ &=: x^3 - \frac{c_4}{48}x - \frac{c_6}{864} \end{aligned} \quad (1.3)$$

1.5. Denoting

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y - x^3 - a_2x^2 - a_4x - a_6, \\ g(x, y) &= y^2 - x^3 + \frac{c_4}{48}x + \frac{c_6}{864}, \end{aligned}$$

it holds

$$f\left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}, y - \frac{a_1\left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}\right) - a_3}{2}\right) = f\left(x - \frac{b_2}{12}, y - \frac{12a_1x - a_1b_2 - 12a_3}{24}\right) = g(x, y).$$

1.6. If we assume $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{Q}$, it is natural to compute the polynomial $h(x, y) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y]$ such that

$$h(x, y) = \alpha g\left(\frac{x}{\beta}, \frac{y}{\gamma}\right) \in \mathbb{Z}[x, y].$$

Such condition requires that $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in \mathbb{Z}$ satisfy

$$\alpha = \gcd(\beta^3, \gamma^2, 48, 864) = \gcd(\beta^3, \gamma^2, 2^4 3, 2^5 3^3);$$

Figure 1.1:

$$\begin{aligned}
b_2 &:= a_1^2 + 4a_2, \\
b_4 &:= a_1a_3 + 2a_4, \\
b_6 &:= a_3^2 + 4a_6, \\
b_8 &:= a_1^2a_6 - a_1a_3a_4 + a_2a_3^2 + 4a_2a_6 - a_4^2; \\
c_4 &:= b_2^2 - 24b_4, \\
c_6 &:= -b_2^3 + 36b_2b_4 - 216b_6; \\
\Delta &:= -b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6; \\
j &:= \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} \text{ (if } \Delta \text{ is invertible)}
\end{aligned}$$

related by the identities

$$4b_8 = b_2b_6 - b_4^2 \text{ and } 1728\Delta = c_4^3 - c_6^2.$$

the minimal solution is

$$\alpha = 2^6 3^6 = 6^6, \beta = 6^2, \gamma = 6^3$$

which gives

$$h(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 + \frac{6^4}{2^4 3} c_4 x + \frac{6^6}{2^5 3^3} c_6 = y^2 - x^3 + 27c_4 x + 54c_6. \quad (1.4)$$

1.7. We will also use, when $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$ the equation

$$y^2 = x^3 + Ax + B \quad (1.5)$$

where we have $A = -\frac{c_4}{48}, B = -\frac{c_6}{864}$.

1.2 Discriminant

Definition 1.8. Let $f \in \mathbb{F}[x, y]$ be a polynomial and let C be the curve over \mathbb{F} given by the equation $f(x, y) = 0$.

A singular point of C is any point $(x_0, y_0) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}^2$ (with coordinates in the algebraic closure $\overline{\mathbb{F}}$ of \mathbb{F}) such that

$$f(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = 0. \quad (1.6)$$

1.9. Let us restrict ourselves to the case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$ and consider an elliptic curve given by

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - g(x);$$

the potential singular points $(x_0, y_0) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}^2$ must satisfy equation (1.6); since we have

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} \text{ and } \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 2y,$$

and we are assuming $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$, we have that (x_0, y_0) is a singular point if and only if

- (a) $0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\partial g}{\partial x}(x_0)$,
- (b) $0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = 2y_0 \implies y_0 = 0$ and
- (c) $0 = f(x_0, y_0) = y_0^2 - g(x_0)$, which, by (b), is equivalent to $g(x_0) = y_0^2 = 0$,

id est if and only if $y_0 = 0$ and $g(x_0) = g'(x_0) = 0$.

In other words the elliptic curve given by $f(x, y) = y^2 - g(x)$ has a singular point $P \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}^2$ if and only if $g(x)$ has a singular point x_0 if and only if the discriminant $\text{Disc}(g)$ of g is zero. If $\text{Disc}(g) = 0$ we have $P = (x_0, 0)$ where x_0 is the singular point of g .

1.10. We recall that for a polynomial $g(x) = e_0x^3 + e_1x^2 + e_2x + e_3$ its discriminant is

$$\text{Disc}(g) = e_1^2e_2^2 - 4e_0e_2^3 - 4e_1^3e_3 - 27e_0^2e_3^2 + 18e_0e_1e_2e_3. \quad (1.7)$$

Remark that for $\bar{g}(x) = ag(\frac{x}{b})$, we have $\bar{g}g(x) = \frac{a}{b^3}e_0x^3 + \frac{a}{b^2}e_1x^2 + \frac{a}{b}e_2x + ae_3$ so that $\text{Disc}(\bar{g}) = \frac{a^4}{b^6}$

1.11. Therefore, if we apply this formula to equation (1.2), *id est* to $g = 4x^3 + b_2x^2 + 2b_4x + b_6$ we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\text{Disc}(g)}{e_0^2} &= e_0^{-2}e_1^2e_2^2 - 4e_0^{-1}e_2^3 - 4e_0^{-2}e_1^3e_3 - 27e_3^2 + 18e_0^{-1}e_1e_2e_3 \\
&= \frac{1}{4}b_2^2b_4^2 - 2^3b_4^3 - \frac{1}{4}b_2^3b_6 - 27b_6^2 + \frac{18}{2}b_2b_4b_6 \\
&= \frac{1}{4}b_2^2(b_4^2 - b_2b_6) - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6 \\
&= -b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6 \\
&=: \Delta
\end{aligned}$$

where we have defined

$$b_8 := \frac{1}{4}(b_2b_6 - b_4^2) = \frac{1}{4}\left((a_1^2 + 4a_2)(a_3^2 + 4a_6) - (a_1a_3 + 2a_4)^2\right) = a_1^2a_6 - a_1a_3a_4 + a_2a_3^2 + 4a_2a_6 - a_4^2.$$

Definition 1.12. In case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$, the discriminant Δ of the elliptic curve given by (1.2) is defined

$$\Delta := -b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6.$$

Theorem 1.13. *If $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$, an elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1) is singular if and only if $\Delta = 0$.*

1.14. Alternatively, in case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 3$ too, one can compute (up to constants) $\text{Disc}(g)$ via a direct computation of $\text{gcd}(g(x), g'(x))$ using the euclidean algorithm; we do it using equation (1.3), and $g = x^3 - 27c_4x - 54c_6$.

A direct application of the Euclidean algorithm computes

$$\begin{aligned}
- r_{-1} &:= g = x^3 - 27c_4x - 54c_6, \\
- r_0 &:= \frac{g'}{3} = x^2 - 9c_4, \\
- r_1 &:= \frac{-1}{18}(r_{-1} - xr_0) = c_4x + 3c_6, \\
- c_4^2r_0 - (c_4x - 3c_6)r_1 &= 9(c_6^2 - c_4^3).
\end{aligned}$$

whence

$$\text{gcd}(g(x), g'(x)) = 0 \iff c_6^2 - c_4^3 = 0.$$

A direct computation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
c_4^3 - c_6^2 &= (b_2^2 - 24b_4)^3 - (-b_2^3 + 36b_2b_4 - 216b_6)^2 \\
&= (b_2^6 - 72b_2^4b_4 + 1728b_2^2b_4^2 - 13824b_4^3) \\
&\quad - (b_2^6 - 72b_2^4b_4 + 432b_2^3b_6 + 1296b_2^2b_4^2 - 15552b_2b_4b_6 + 46656b_6^2) \\
&= -432b_2^3b_6 + 432b_2^2b_4^2 + 15552b_2b_4b_6 - 13824b_4^3 - 46656b_6^2 \\
&= -2^43^3b_2^3b_6 + 2^43^3b_2^2b_4^2 + 2^63^5b_2b_4b_6 - 2^93^3b_4^3 - 2^63^6b_6^2 \\
&= 2^63^3 \left(\frac{b_4^2 - b_2b_6}{4}b_2^2 + 3^2b_2b_4b_6 - 2^3b_4^3 - 3^3b_6^2 \right) \\
&= 1728\Delta
\end{aligned}$$

while, for $g = x^3 - 27c_4x - 54c_6$, the discriminant formula gives $\text{Disc}(g) = 78732(c_4^3 - c_6^2) = 2^23^9(c_4^3 - c_6^2)$

1.15. A faster evaluation is obtain, in case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$, by computing $\text{Disc}(g)$ for the polynomial $g = x^3 + Ax + B$ connected to equation (1.5); the result is

$$\text{Disc}(g) = -4A^3 - 27B^2.$$

If we set $A = -\frac{c_4}{48} - \frac{c_4}{2^43}$, $B = -\frac{c_6}{2^53^3}$ we obtain

$$-4A^3 - 27B^2 = \frac{c_4^3 - c_6^2}{3^32^{10}} = \frac{c_4^3 - c_6^2}{1728} \frac{1}{16} = \frac{\Delta}{16}.$$

1.16. Recalling that if $\bar{g}(x) = ag(\frac{x}{b})$, we have $\text{Disc}(\bar{g}) = \frac{a^4}{b^6}$, if we compare the three cubic polynomials in \mathbb{F} , $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$, related to the equations (1.2) and (1.5) namely

$$\begin{aligned}
g_1 &:= 4x^3 + b_2x^2 + 2b_4x + b_6, \\
g_2 &:= x^3 - \frac{c_4}{48}x - \frac{c_6}{864}, \\
g_3 &:= x^3 - 27c_4x - 54c_6
\end{aligned}$$

we have

- $g_1 = 4g_2$ so that necessarily $\text{Disc}(g_1) = 4^4 \text{Disc}(g_2) = 16\Delta$;
- $g_2(x) = g_3(\frac{x}{6^2})$ so that necessarily

$$\text{Disc}(g_3) = 6^{12} \text{Disc}(g_2) = \frac{6^{12}}{16} \Delta = \frac{6^{12}}{16 \cdot 1728} (c_4^3 - c_6^2) = \frac{2^{12} 3^{12}}{2^4 6^3 3^3} (c_4^3 - c_6^2) = 2^2 3^9 (c_4^3 - c_6^2) = 78732(c_4^3 - c_6^2).$$

We summarize the relations as

$c_4^3 - c_6^2$	$=$	$2^6 3^3 \Delta$	$2^{18} 3^3 \text{Disc}(g_1)$	$2^{10} 3^3 \text{Disc}(g_2)$	$2^{-2} 3^{-9} \text{Disc}(g_3)$
Δ	$=$	$2^{-6} 3^{-3} (c_4^3 - c_6^2)$	$2^{-2} \text{Disc}(g_1)$	$2^2 \text{Disc}(g_2)$	$2^4 \text{Disc}(g_3)$
$\text{Disc}(g_1)$	$=$	$2^{-2} 3^{-3} (c_4^3 - c_6^2)$	$2^4 \Delta$	$2^8 \text{Disc}(g_2)$	$2^{-4} 3^{-12} \text{Disc}(g_3)$
$\text{Disc}(g_2)$	$=$	$2^{-10} 3^{-3} (c_4^3 - c_6^2)$	$2^{-4} \Delta$	$\text{Disc}(g_1)$	$\text{Disc}(g_3)$
$\text{Disc}(g_3)$	$=$	$2^2 3^9 (c_4^3 - c_6^2)$	$2^8 3^{12} \Delta$	$\text{Disc}(g_1)$	$2^{12} 3^{12} \text{Disc}(g_2)$

1.17. Remark that if we define, for each field \mathbb{F} without any restriction on characteristic, the values $b_2, b_4, b_6, b_8, c_4, c_6, \Delta, j$ according Figure 1.1, the relations

$$4b_8 = b_2b_6 - b_4^2 \text{ and } 1728\Delta = c_4^3 - c_6^2.$$

still hold also when

- $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) = 2$ where

$$b_2 = a_1^2, b_4 = a_1 a_3, b_6 = a_3^2, c_4 = b_2^2, c_6 = -b_2^3,$$

so that

$$b_2b_6 - b_4^2 = a_1^2 a_3^2 - (a_1 a_3)^2 = 0 = 4b_8$$

and $c_4^3 - c_6^2 = (b_2^2)^3 - (-b_2^3)^2 = 0 = 1728\Delta$;

- $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) = 3$ where $c_4 = b_2^2, c_6 = -b_2^3$ so that, again

$$c_4^3 - c_6^2 = (b_2^2)^3 - (-b_2^3)^2 = 0 = 1728\Delta$$

while $b_2b_6 - b_4^2 = 4b_8$ was already proved in 1.10.

1.3 Singular points

1.18. Each cubic polynomial $f(x, y) \in \mathbb{F}$ can be expressed as a Taylor expansion on each point $P = (x_0, y_0) \in \mathbb{F}^2$:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x, y) &= f(P) + (x - x_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(P) + (y - y_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(P) + \\
&+ \frac{1}{2} (x - x_0)^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(P) + \frac{1}{2} (x - x_0)(y - y_0) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}(P) + \frac{1}{2} (y - y_0)^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}(P) \\
&+ \frac{1}{6} (x - x_0)^3 \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x^3}(P) + r(x, y)
\end{aligned}$$

where the term

$$r(x, y) = \frac{1}{12} (x - x_0)^2 (y - y_0) \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial^2 x \partial y}(P) + \frac{1}{12} (x - x_0)(y - y_0)^2 \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial x \partial^2 y}(P) + \frac{1}{6} (y - y_0)^3 \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial^3 y}(P)$$

assume the value 0 for an elliptic curve.

In the case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$, for the elliptic curve E given by

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 + \frac{c_4}{48}x + \frac{c_6}{864}$$

and the singular point $P = (x_0, y_0)$, we have

$$f(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = 0;$$

moreover

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial^2 x}(P) = -6x, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x \partial y}(P) = 0, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial^2 y}(P) = 2, \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial^3 x} = -6$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y) &= \frac{1}{2} (-6x_0(x - x_0)^2 + 2(y - y_0)^2) - (x - x_0)^3 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(\frac{(y - y_0)}{(x - x_0)} \right)^2 - 3x_0 \right) - (x - x_0)^3. \end{aligned}$$

Let us restrict ourselves to the case $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{R}$; in this case we have three different cases;

– if $x_0 > 0$

$$f(x, y) = ((y - y_0) - \sqrt{3x_0}(x - x_0)) ((y - y_0) + \sqrt{3x_0}(x - x_0)) - (x - x_0)^3$$

and we have a *node*;

– if $x_0 = 0$

$$f(x, y) = (y - y_0)^2 - (x - x_0)^3$$

and we have a *cusp*;

– if $x_0 < 0$

$$f(x, y) = ((y - y_0)^2 + 3|x_0|(x - x_0)^2) - (x - x_0)^3$$

where $(y - y_0)^2 + 3|x_0|(x - x_0)^2$ is irreducible in $\mathbb{R}[x, y]$ and $P = (x_0, y_0)$ is its single root.

1.19. For a generic field \mathbb{F} , $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$, we have essentially the three different cases according the factorization structure of the polynomial $d(z) := z^2 - 3x_0 \in \mathbb{F}[z]$:

– if $d(z) = (z - \alpha)(z - \beta)$, $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}$, $\alpha \neq \beta$, has two different factors in $\mathbb{F}[z]$ then

$$f(x, y) = ((y - y_0) - \alpha(x - x_0)) ((y - y_0) - \beta(x - x_0)) - (x - x_0)^3$$

and we have a *split-case node*

– if $d(z) = (z - \alpha)^2$, $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}$ has a factor with multiplicity 2 in $\mathbb{F}[z]$ then

$$f(x, y) = ((y - y_0) - \alpha(x - x_0))^2 - (x - x_0)^3$$

and we have a *cusp*

– if $d(z)$ is irreducible, then

$$f(x, y) = ((y - y_0)^2 - 3x_0(x - x_0)^2) - (x - x_0)^3$$

and we have a *nonsplit-case node*

1.4 Discriminant (2)

1.20. Let us now consider an elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1).

If it is singular we can wlog assume that singular point P is $P = (0, 0)$; therefore

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= f(0, 0) &= a_6, \\ 0 &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) &= a_4, \\ 0 &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(0, 0) &= a_3. \end{aligned}$$

We already remarked that the values introduced in Figure 1.1 are defined without any restriction on characteristic. Thus, for a singular curve (1.1), we have

$$b_2 = a_1^2 + 4a_2, b_4 = b_6 = b_8 = 0, c_4 = (a_1^2 + 4a_2)^2, c_6 = (a_1^2 + 4a_2)^3$$

so that $\Delta = -b_2^2 b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2 b_4 b_6 = 0$.

Lemma 1.21. *If an elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1) is singular then $\Delta = 0$.*

Moreover such singular curve is given by an equation $f(x, y) = x^3$ where we set

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_1xy - a_2x^2$$

and $f(x, y)$ factorizes in $\overline{\mathbb{F}}$ into either

- two linear distinct factors iff $a_1^2 + 4a_2 \neq 0$ (node case),
- a single linear factor with multiplicity 2 iff $a_1^2 + 4a_2 = 0$ (cusp case).

We have already proved in Theorem 1.13 the converse of Lemma 1.21 iff $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2$ and, in Corollaries 1.55 and 1.64, we will prove that also in case $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) = 2$.

Theorem 1.22. *An elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1) is singular if and only if $\Delta = 0$. It has a node if and only if $\Delta = 0$ and $c_4 \neq 0$; it has a cusp if and only if $\Delta = 0$ and $c_4 = 0$.*

1.5 Elliptic curves in the Reals

1.6 Projective space

1.7 Projective elliptic curves

1.23. Recall that for a projective curve C given by a homogeneous polynomial $F(X, Y, Z)$, a point P on C and a line $\ell := aX + bY + cZ$:

- (1) P is non singular iff at least one among $\frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(P)$, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial Y}(P)$, $\frac{\partial F}{\partial Z}(P)$ is non zero,
- (2) in which case the tangent L to the curve C at the non singular point P is

$$L = \frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(P)X + \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y}(P)Y + \frac{\partial F}{\partial Z}(P)Z.$$

Up to a proper translation we can wlog assume $P = (0 : 0 : 1)$ and express F as

$$F(X, Y, Z) = \sum_{i=0}^{\deg(F)} f_i(X, Y)Z^{\deg(F)-i},$$

with $f_0 = 0^1$

If moreover $\ell(P) = 0$, so that $c = 0$, its projective points are $\{bt : -at : 10\}$ and we have

$$F(bt, -at, 1) = \sum_{i=1}^{\deg(F)} f_i(b, -a)t^i.$$

We define

- (3) the intersection multiplicity of ℓ and F at P , $i(P, \ell, F)$, as

$$i(P, \ell, F) := \begin{cases} +\infty & \text{iff } F(bt, -at, 1) = 0 \\ \min\{j : f_j \neq 0\} & \text{iff } F(bt, -at, 1) = \sum_{i=j}^{\deg(F)} f_i(b, -a)t^i \neq 0; \end{cases}$$

- (4) P a flex or inflection point of F if the intersection multiplicity of the tangent line L to F at P satisfies $i(P, \ell, F) \geq 3$.

1.24. We can consider the projective version of the elliptic curve E given by (1.1), namely the curve consisting of all (projective) solutions of the polynomial

$$F(X, Y, Z) = Y^2Z + a_1XYZ + a_3YZ^2 - (X^3 + a_2X^2Z + a_4XZ^2 + a_6Z^3) \quad (1.8)$$

whose finite points are the set $\{(x : y : 1) : (x, y) \in E\}$ and whose single point at infinity is the only solution of the equation

$$0 = F(X, Y, 0) = X^3,$$

namely $O := (0 : 1 : 0)$.

¹since $F(P) = 0 \iff f_i(0, 0) = 0$ for each i and $f_0 \in \mathbb{F}$.

1.25. Since

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial F}{\partial X} &= a_1YZ - 3X^2 - 2a_2XZ - a_4Z^2, \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y} &= 2YZ + a_1XZ + a_3Z^2, \\ \frac{\partial F}{\partial Z} &= Y^2 + a_1XY + 2a_3YZ - a_2X^2 - 2a_4XZ - 3a_6Z^2,\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial X}(O) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial Y} = 0, \quad \frac{\partial F}{\partial Z}(O) = 1$$

, we can deduce that

- (1) O is non singular,
- (2) the tangent to E at O is $L = Z$;

Moreover, since $F(X, Y, Z) = \sum_{i=1}^3 f_i Y^{3-i}$ with

$$\begin{aligned}f_1 &= Z, \\ f_2 &= a_1XZ + a_3Z^2, \\ f_3 &= -(X^3 + a_2X^2Z + a_4XZ^2 + a_6Z^3),\end{aligned}$$

we have $F(t, 1, 0) = t^3$ so that

- (3) $i(O, L, F) = 3$ and
- (4) O is a flex.

1.26. Let $G(X, Y, Z) \in \mathbb{F}[X, Y, Z]$ be a generic cubic²

$$G(X, Y, Z) = c_{300}X^3 + c_{210}X^2Y + c_{120}XY^2 + c_{030}Y^3 + c_{201}X^2Z + c_{111}XYZ + c_{021}Y^2Z + c_{102}XZ^2 + c_{012}YZ^2 + c_{033}Z^3$$

and the curve C defined by it; if we impose that

- (1) $P = (0 : 1 : 0) \in C$,
- (2) P is not singular,
- (3) the tangent L to C at P is Z ,
- (4) P is a flex point and
- (5) $Z \nmid G$

we obtain

- (1) $0 = G(0, 1, 0) = c_{030}Y^3$;
- (2) since $\frac{\partial G}{\partial Y}(P) = 3c_{030} = 0$, necessarily either $0 \neq \frac{\partial G}{\partial X}(P) = c_{120}$ or $0 \neq \frac{\partial G}{\partial Z}(P) = c_{021}$;
- (3) the tangent $L = c_{120}X + c_{021}Z$ is $Z \iff c_{120} = 0$ and $c_{021} \neq 0$;
- (4) $Z \mid c_{210}X^2Y + c_{111}XYZ + c_{012}YZ^2 \implies c_{210} = 0$;
- (5) $Z \nmid G = c_{300}X^3 + c_{201}X^2Z + c_{111}XYZ + c_{021}Y^2Z + c_{102}XZ^2 + c_{012}YZ^2 + c_{033}Z^3 \implies c_{300} \neq 0$.

If we now compute $G(tx, ty, 1)$ we obtain

$$G(tx, ty, 1) = c_{300}t^3x^3 + c_{201}t^2x^2 + t^2c_{111}xy + c_{021}t^2y^2 + c_{102}tx + c_{012}ty + c_{033};$$

and we can further grant $c_{300}t^3 = c_{021}t^2 = 1$ setting $t = \frac{c_{021}}{c_{300}}$.

The equation, thus becomes

$$G = c_{300}\left\{X^3 + \frac{c_{201}}{c_{300}}X^2Z + \frac{c_{111}}{c_{300}}XYZ + Y^2Z + \frac{c_{201}}{c_{102}}XZ^2 + \frac{c_{012}}{c_{300}}YZ^2 + \frac{c_{033}}{c_{300}}Z^3\right\}$$

namely (1.1).

²The argument of this section does not need any restriction on characteristic.

Lemma 1.27. *If $G(X, Y, Z) \in \mathbb{F}[X, Y, Z]$ is a cubic which has a flex at $(x_0 : y_0 : z_0)$, then there is a projective transformation Φ such that $f^\Phi(X, Y, Z) = f(\Phi_1^{-1}(X), \Phi_1^{-1}(Y), \Phi_1^{-1}(Z))$ has (1.8) as equation.*

Proof. In fact if Φ_1 is the translation such that $\Phi_1(x_0 : y_0 : z_0) = (0 : 1 : 0)$ then $f^{\Phi_1} := f(\Phi_1^{-1}(X), \Phi_1^{-1}(Y), \Phi_1^{-1}(Z))$ has a flex at $(0 : 1 : 0)$.

Let $L(X, Y, Z) = \alpha X + \beta Z$ be the tangent to f^{Φ_1} at $(0 : 1 : 0)$ and choose a non singular matrix $\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$ with $L(a, b, 1) = \alpha a + \beta b = 0$ and define

$$\Phi_2^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & b \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ c & 0 & d \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then $\Phi_2^{-1}(\alpha : 0 : \beta) = (0 : 0 : 1)$ and L^{Φ_2} is the same line as Z so that $(f^{\Phi_1})^{\Phi_2} = f^{\Phi_2 \Phi_1}$ has a flex at $(0 : 1 : 0)$ with Z as tangent..

The matrix

$$\Phi_3(t)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} t & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & t & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

is such that

$$f^{\Phi_3(t)\Phi_2\Phi_1} = (f^{\Phi_2\Phi_1})\Phi_3(t) = f^{\Phi_2\Phi_1}(tX, tY, Z) = c_{YZ}t^3Y^2Z + \dots + c_{XXX}t^3X^3 + \dots$$

Thus for $t = \frac{c_{YZ}}{c_{XXX}}$ the coefficients of Y^2Z and X^3 are the same.. □

1.8 Bezout's Theorem

Fact 1.28 (Bezout's Theorem). *Let C_1 and C_2 be two projective curve with no common component. Then, it holds*

$$\sum_{P \in C_1 \cap C_2} I(C_1 \cap C_2, P) = \deg(C_1) \deg(C_2).$$

where $I(C_1 \cap C_2, P)$ is properly defined as multiplicity index to each point $P \in C_1 \cap C_2$, in such a way that $I(C_1 \cap C_2, P) := i(P, \ell, C_1)$ in the particular case in which $C_2 = \ell$ is a line.

1.29. Thus if C is an irreducible non-singular elliptic curve and ℓ is any line, either

- either $C \cap \ell$ consists of three different point, or
- ℓ is the tangent to C at P , $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ and there is a third point $Q \in C \cup \ell$, $Q \neq P$, or
- $P \in C \cup \ell$ is a flex point.

1.30. Let us assume that C is an elliptic curve with a singular point which we can wlog assume to be $P = (0 : 0 : 1)$ and consider the intersection $C \cap \ell$ where $\ell = ax + by$ is any line s.t. $P \in \ell$:

- if C is a cusp so that $F = Y^2Z - X^3$:
 - if $a = 0$, $F(t, 0, 1) = t^3$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 3$;
 - if $b = 0$, $F(0, t, 1) = t^2$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $O = (0 : 1 : 0)$;
 - if $a \neq 0 \neq b$, $F(bt, -at, 1) = a^2t^2 - b^3t^3 = -t^2(t - \frac{a^2}{b^3})$ so that $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $Q := (c^2 : -c^3 : 1)$, with $c := \frac{a}{b}$
- if C is a split-case node so that $F = Y^2Z - d^2X^2Z - X^3$
 - if $a = 0$, $F(t, 0, 1) = -d^2t^2 - t^3 = -t^2(t + d^2)$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $O = (0 : -d^2 : 1)$;
 - if $b = 0$, $F(0, t, 1) = t^2$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $O = (0 : 1 : 0)$;
 - if $a \neq 0 \neq b$, $F(bt, -at, 1) = a^2t^2 - d^2b^2t^2 - b^3t^3 = -t^2(t - \frac{a^2 - d^2b^2}{b^3})$ so that
 - * $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $Q := (c^2 - d^2 : c^3 - d^2c : 1)$, with $c := \frac{a}{b}$ if $c \neq \pm d$
 - * $i(P, \ell, C) = 3$ if $a^2 - d^2b^2 = 0$.
- if C is a nonsplit-case node. so that $F = (Y^2Z + d^2X^2Z - X^3$
 - if $a = 0$, $F(t, 0, 1) = d^2t^2 - t^3 = -t^2(t - d^2)$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $O = (0 : d^2 : 1)$;
 - if $b = 0$, $F(0, t, 1) = t^2$, $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $O = (0 : 1 : 0)$;
 - if $a \neq 0 \neq b$, $F(bt, -at, 1) = a^2t^2 + d^2b^2t^2 - b^3t^3 = -t^2(t - \frac{a^2 + d^2b^2}{b^3})$ so that $i(P, \ell, C) = 2$ the third point being $Q := (c^2 + d^2 : c(c^2 + -d^2) : 1)$, with $c := \frac{a}{b}$

1.9 Arithmetics of the points of an elliptic curve (1)

1.10 Admissible change of variables

1.31. Let us consider the generic change of variables $\Phi : \mathbb{P}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^3$

$$X = a_{11}X' + a_{12}Y' + a_{13}Z', \quad Y = a_{21}X' + a_{22}Y' + a_{23}Z', \quad Z = a_{31}X' + a_{32}Y' + a_{33}Z'; \quad (1.9)$$

if we apply it to a cubic $F(X, Y, Z)$ in Weierstrass form, in order to obtain

$$F'(X', Y', Z') = F(a_{11}X' + a_{12}Y' + a_{13}Z', a_{21}X' + a_{22}Y' + a_{23}Z', a_{31}X' + a_{32}Y' + a_{33}Z')$$

still in Weierstrass form, we must at least be granted that

- $\Phi(Z) = Z$ so that $a_{31} = a_{32} = 0, a_{33} = 1$;
- $O = (0 : 1 : 0)$ is preserved so that $a_{12} = a_{32} = 0$;
- the weight $\text{wt}(X) = 3, \text{wt}(Y) = 2$ is preserved
- or (what is essentially the same) that $a_{11}^3 = a_{21}^2 \neq 0$.

1.32. It is then easy to realize that the most general allowable change of coordinates Φ which transform each cubic $F(X, Y, Z)$ in Weierstrass form into a cubic still in Weierstrass form is

$$X = u^2X' + rZ', \quad Y = u^3Y' + u^2sX' + tZ', \quad Z = Z'; \quad (1.10)$$

and (in the affine case)

$$x = u^2x' + r, \quad y = u^3y' + u^2sx' + t. \quad (1.11)$$

1.33. Remark that there is an inverse transformation

$$x' = v^2x + r', \quad y' = v^3y' + v^2s'x + t' \quad (1.12)$$

which satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} uv &= 1, \\ r &= -u^2r', & r' &= -v^2r, \\ s &= -us', & s' &= -vs, \\ t &= -u^3[t' - s'r'], & t' &= -v^3[t - sr], \end{aligned}$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} x &= u^2(v^2x + r') + r & &= x, \\ y &= u^3(v^3y + v^2s'x + t') + u^2s(v^2x + r') + t \\ &= u^3v^3y + u^2v^2(us' + s)x + (u^3t' + u^2sr' + t) \\ &= u^3v^3y + u^2v^2(us' + s)x + (u^3t' - u^3s'r' + t) & &= y \\ x' &= v^2(u^2x' + r) + r' & &= x', \\ y' &= v^3(u^3y + u^2sx' + t) + v^2s'(u^2x' + r) + t' \\ &= u^3v^3y' + u^2v^2(vs + s')x' + (v^3t + v^2s'r + t') \\ &= u^3v^3y' + u^2v^2(vs + s')x' + (v^3t - v^3sr + t') & &= y' \end{aligned}$$

1.34. Thus if we apply the admissible change of coordinate (1.11) to

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y - (x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6)$$

we obtain

$$f(u^2x' + r, u^3y' + su^2x' + t)u^{-6} = y'^2 + a'_1x'y' + a'_3y' - (x'^3 + a'_2x'^2 + a'_4x' + a'_6)$$

where the values a'_i are defined as in Fig. 1.2

1.35. If we assume $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$, and we apply (1.11) to an elliptic curve expressed as

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - (x^3 + Ax + B)$$

using (1.5) we obtain

$$u^6y'^2 + 2u^5sx'y' + 2u^3ty' - u^6x'^3 - u^4(3r - s^2)x'^2 - u^2(A + 3r^2 - 2st)x' - (Ar + B + r^3 - t^2);$$

thus the most general allowable change of coordinates Φ which grants that also $\Phi(f)$ is expressed via (1.5) must satisfy

$$0 = s = t = 3r - s^2 \text{ whence } r = s = t = 0$$

and has the shape

$$x = u^2x', \quad y = u^3y', \quad (1.13)$$

so that

$$\Phi(f(x, y)) = u^6y'^2 - u^6x'^3 - u^2Ax' - B. \quad (1.14)$$

Figure 1.2:

$$\begin{aligned}
a'_1 &:= \frac{a_1+2s}{u} \\
a'_2 &:= \frac{a_2-a_1s+3r-s^2}{u^2} \\
a'_3 &:= \frac{a_3+a_1r+2t}{u^3} \\
a'_4 &:= \frac{a_4-sa_3+2a_2r-a_1(rs+t)+3r^2-2st}{u^4} \\
a'_6 &:= \frac{a_6-a_1rt+a_2r^2-a_3t+a_4r+r^3-t^2}{u^6}
\end{aligned}$$

1.11 Invariant (1)

1.36. Thus if we apply the admissible change of coordinate (1.11) to

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y - (x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6)$$

we obtain the relations

$$\begin{aligned}
ua'_1 &= a_1 + 2s, \\
u^2a'_2 &= a_2 - a_1s + 3r - s^2, \\
u^3a'_3 &= a_3 + a_1r + 2t &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(r, t) \\
u^4a'_4 &= a_4 - sa_3 + 2a_2r - a_1(rs + t) + 3r^2 - 2st &= -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(r, t) - s\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(r, t) \\
u^6a'_6 &= a_6 - a_1rt + a_2r^2 - a_3t + a_4r + r^3 - t^2 &= f(r, t)
\end{aligned}$$

1.37. If we reformulate

$$f'(x', y') = y'^2 + a'_1x'y' + a'_3y' - (x'^3 + a'_2x'^2 + a'_4x' + a'_6)$$

as

$$f'(x', y') = y'^2 - (x'^3 + b'_2x'^2 + b'_4x' + b'_6)$$

we obtain

$$u^2b'_2 = (ua'_1)^2 + 4u^2a'_2 = a_1^2 + 4sa_1 + 4s^2 + 4a_2 - 4a_1s + 12r - 4s^2 = a_1^2 + 4a_2 + 12r = b_2 + 12r$$

and, with a similar computation

$$\begin{aligned}
u^4b'_4 &= b_4 + rb_2 + 6r^2, \\
u^6b'_6 &= b_6 + 2rb_4 + r^2b_2 + 4r^3, \\
u^8b'_8 &= b_8 + 3rb_6 + 3r^2b_4 + r^3b_6 + 3r^4.
\end{aligned}$$

1.38. If we further reformulate $f'(x', y')$ as

$$f'(x', y') = y'^2 - (x'^3 + c'_4x' + c'_6)$$

we have

$$u^4c'_4 = (u^2b'_2)^2 - 24u^4b'_4 = b_2^2 + 24rb_2 + 144r^2 - 24b_4 - 24rb_2 - 144r^2 = b_2^2 - 24b_4 = c'_4$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
u^6c'_6 &= -(u^2b'_2)^3 + 36(u^2b'_2)(u^4b'_4) - 216u^6b'_6 \\
&= -b_2^3 - 36rb_2^2 - 432r^2b_2 + 1728r^3 \\
&\quad + 36b_2b_4 + 432b_4r + 36b_2^2r + 648b_2r^2 + 2592r^3 \\
&\quad - 216b_6 - 432rb_4 - 216r^2b_2 - 864r^3 \\
&= -b_2^3 + 36b_2b_4 - 216b_6 \\
&= c_6
\end{aligned}$$

1.39. A more involved computation gives

$$\begin{aligned}
u^{12}\Delta' &= -(u^2b_2)^2(u^8b_8) - 8(u^4b_4^3) - 27(u^6b_6)^2 + 9(u^2b_2)(u^4b_4)(u^6b_6) \\
&= (36r^2 + 6b_2r)(b_2b_6 - b_4^2 - 4b_8) - b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6 \\
&= -b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6 \\
&= \Delta
\end{aligned}$$

Figure 1.3:

$$\begin{aligned}
ua'_1 &= a_1 + 2s, \\
u^2a'_2 &= a_2 - a_1s + 3r - s^2, \\
u^3a'_3 &= a_3 + a_1r + 2t &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(r, t) \\
u^4a'_4 &= a_4 - sa_3 + 2a_2r - a_1(rs + t) + 3r^2 - 2st &= -\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(r, t) - s\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(r, t) \\
u^6a'_6 &= a_6 - a_1rt + a_2r^2 - a_3t + a_4r + r^3 - t^2 &= f(r, t) \\
\\
u^2b'_2 &= b_2 + 12r \\
u^4b'_4 &= b_4 + rb_2 + 6r^2, \\
u^6b'_6 &= b_6 + 2rb_4 + r^2b_2 + 4r^3, \\
u^8b'_8 &= b_8 + 3rb_6 + 3r^2b_4 + r^3b_6 + 3r^4. \\
\\
u^4c'_4 &= c_4 \\
u^6c'_6 &= c_6 \\
u^{12}\Delta' &= \Delta \\
j' &= j
\end{aligned}$$

1.40. As a consequence

$$j' := \frac{c'_4{}^3}{\Delta'} = \frac{(u^4c_4)^3}{u^{12}\Delta} = \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} = j.$$

Definition 1.41. The j -invariant of the non-singular elliptic curve (1.1) is the value $j := \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta}$.

Lemma 1.42. Two isomorphic non-singular elliptic curves have the same invariant

1.12 Invariant (2)

1.43. Assuming $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) \neq 2, 3$ and let us consider a non singular curve $f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - Ax - B$ expressed using (1.5); we have

$$j = \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} = \frac{(-48A)^3}{\Delta} = \frac{-(2^43A)^3}{\Delta} = \frac{-2^{12}3^3A^3}{\Delta} = \frac{-2^63^32^2A^3}{\Delta} = \frac{-12^34A^3}{\Delta} = -1728\frac{4A^3}{\Delta}.$$

1.44. Let us now consider two non singular curves

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - Ax - B \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 - x'^3 - A'x' - B'$$

expressed using (1.5).

If they are isomorphic via the transformation (1.13) we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\Phi(f) &= u^6y'^2 - u'^6x'^3 - u^2Ax' - B \\
&= u^6\left(y'^2 - x'^3 - \frac{A}{u^4}x' - \frac{B}{u^6}\right) \\
&= u^6(y'^2 - x'^3 - A'x' - B')
\end{aligned}$$

whence

$$u^4A' = A \text{ and } u^6B' = B.$$

Moreover

$$\Delta = -16(4A^3 - 27B^3) = -16u^{12}(4A'^3 - 27B'^3) = u^{12}\Delta'$$

and

$$j = -1728\frac{(4A)^3}{\Delta} = -1728\frac{(4u^4A')^3}{u^{12}\Delta'} = -1728\frac{4A'^3}{\Delta'} = j$$

as we already know.

Lemma 1.45. For two curves f, f' we have

$$j = j' \iff A^3B'^2 = A'^3B^2$$

Proof. Using

$$\Delta = -16(4A^3 - 27B^3) \text{ and } j = -1728 \frac{(4A)^3}{\Delta}$$

we have

$$\frac{(4A)^3}{4A^3 - 27B^3} = -16 \frac{(4A)^3}{\Delta} = \frac{16}{1728} j = \frac{16}{1728} j' = \frac{(4A')^3}{4A'^3 - 27B'^3} \iff j = j';$$

moreover we have also the trivial equivalences

$$(4A'^3 - 27B'^3) \cdot (4A)^3 = (4A^3 - 27B^3) \cdot (4A')^3 \iff \frac{(4A)^3}{4A^3 - 27B^3} = \frac{(4A')^3}{4A'^3 - 27B'^3}$$

and

$$4^4 A^3 A'^3 + 1728 A^3 B'^2 = (4A'^3 - 27B'^3) \cdot (4A)^3 = (4A^3 - 27B^2) \cdot (4A')^3 = 4^4 A^3 A'^3 + 1728 A'^3 B'^2 \iff A^3 B'^2 = A^3 B'^2.$$

□

1.46. Consider the two non singular curves

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - Ax - B \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 - x'^3 - A'x' - B'$$

we intend to classify all transformations

$$x = u^2 x', y = u^3 y' : f'(x', y') = f(u^2 x', u^3 y')$$

under the assumption that $j = j'$.

Under this assumptions we have

- $u^4 A' = A$ and $u^6 B' = B$ from $f'(x', y') = f(u^2 x', u^3 y')$;
- $A^3 B'^2 = A'^3 B^2$ (Lemma 1.45)
- $4A^3 - 27B^3 = -\frac{1}{16} \Delta \neq 0$ (since f is non singular)
- $4A'^3 - 27B'^3 = -\frac{1}{16} \Delta' \neq 0$ (since f' is non singular)

Moreover, we intend to describe the group structure of the automorphisms of the curve f , *id est* under the further assumptions

- $A = A', B = B'$.

To do so, we need to consider three cases

- (1) If $\boxed{B = 0}$, we can further deduce, from $\Delta \neq 0$, $\boxed{A \neq 0}$, whence, from $A^3 B'^2 = A'^3 B^2 = 0$, $\boxed{B' = 0}$ and, from $\Delta' \neq 0$, $\boxed{A' \neq 0}$; this case is studied in 1.47
- (2) If $\boxed{A = 0}$, we can further deduce, from $\Delta \neq 0$, $\boxed{B \neq 0}$, whence, from $0 = A^3 B'^2 = A'^3 B^2$, $\boxed{A' = 0}$ and, from $\Delta' \neq 0$, $\boxed{B' \neq 0}$; this case is studied in 1.48
- (3) If $\boxed{AB \neq 0}$, from $A^3 B'^2 = A'^3 B^2$ we deduce that $A' = 0 \iff B' = 0$ and, since $\Delta' \neq 0$ this implies $\boxed{A'B' \neq 0}$; this case is studied in 1.49

1.47. Since $A \neq 0 \neq A'$ we can set $u = \sqrt[4]{\frac{A}{A'}}$ and we obtain the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 - x^3 - Ax &= f(x, y) = f(u^2 x', u^3 y') \\ &= u^6 y'^2 - u^6 x'^3 - Au^2 x' \\ &= u^6 \left(y'^2 - x'^3 - \frac{A}{u^4} x' \right) \\ &= u^6 (y'^2 - x'^3 - A' x') = u^6 f'(x', y') \end{aligned}$$

Note that we have

$$c_6 = -864B = 0, c_4 = -48A \neq 0, 1728\Delta = c_4^3 - c_6^2 = c_4^3, \boxed{j = \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} = 1728}.$$

1.48. Since $B \neq 0 \neq B'$ we can set $u = \sqrt[6]{\frac{B}{B'}}$ and we obtain the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 - x^3 - B &= f(x, y) = f(u^2x', u^3y') \\ &= u^6y'^2 - u^6x'^3 - B \\ &= u^6 \left(y'^2 - x'^3 - \frac{B}{u^6} \right) \\ &= u^6 (y'^2 - x'^3 - B') = u^6 f'(x', y') \end{aligned}$$

Note that we have

$$c_6 = -864B \neq 0, c_4 = -48A = 0, 1728\Delta = c_4^3 - c_6^2 = -c_6^3, \boxed{j = \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} = 0}.$$

1.49. Since both $A \neq 0 \neq A'$ and $B \neq 0 \neq B'$ and $A^3B'^2 = A'^3B^2$ we have $\left(\frac{A}{A'}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{B}{B'}\right)^2$ so that

$$\sqrt[6]{\frac{B}{B'}} = \sqrt[4]{\frac{A}{A'}} =: u$$

satisfies $u^{12} = \left(\frac{A}{A'}\right)^3 = \left(\frac{B}{B'}\right)^2$

We thus obtain the transformation

$$\begin{aligned} y^2 - x^3 - Ax - B &= f(x, y) = f(u^2x', u^3y') \\ &= u^6y'^2 - u^6x'^3 - Au^2x' - B \\ &= u^6 \left(y'^2 - x'^3 - \frac{A}{u^4}x' - \frac{B}{u^6} \right) \\ &= u^6 (y'^2 - x'^3 - A'x' - B') = u^6 f'(x', y') \end{aligned}$$

Note that $c_4 = -48A \neq 0$ and $\boxed{j = -1728 \frac{(4A)^3}{\Delta} \neq 0}$.

Moreover

$$j = 1728 \implies c_4^3 - c_6^2 = 1728\Delta = j\Delta = c_4^3 \iff c_6^2 = 0 \iff c_6 = 0$$

and conversely $c_6 = 0 \implies j = \frac{c_4^3}{\Delta} = \frac{c_4^3 - c_6^2}{\Delta} = 1728$; thus

Thus we have $c_6 = -864B \neq 0$ whence $\boxed{j \neq 1728}$.

1.50. If, moreover $f = f'$, *id est* $A = A', B = B'$ we have

$\underline{B=0}$: $A = A' \implies u^4 = \frac{A}{A'} = 1$ and the automorphism group is isomorphic to that of the 4th root of the unity, namely \mathbb{Z}_4 .

$\underline{A=0}$: $B = B' \implies u^6 = \frac{B}{B'} = 1$ and the automorphism group is isomorphic to that of the 6th root of the unity, namely \mathbb{Z}_6 .

$\underline{AB \neq 0}$: Since we have both $A = A' \implies u^4 = \frac{A}{A'} = 1$ and $B = B' \implies u^6 = \frac{B}{B'} = 1$ we obtain $u^2 = 1, u = \{\pm 1\}$ and the automorphism group is isomorphic to that of the 2th root of the unity, namely \mathbb{Z}_2 .

1.13 Invariant (3)

1.14 Arithmetics of the points of an elliptic curve (2)

1.15 Elliptic curve in characteristic 2

1.51. Let us consider a non singular elliptic curve

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6 = 0$$

in a field \mathbb{F} , $\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 2$.

We thus have

$$b_2 = a_1^2, b_4 = a_1a_3, b_6 = a_3^2, c_4 = b_2^2 = a_1^4, c_6 = a_6^6,$$

and $j = \frac{a_1^{12}}{\Delta}$.

Thus there two different cases; either

- $a_1 = 0 \iff j = 0$ or
- $a_1 \neq 0 \iff j \neq 0$

1.16 Elliptic curve in characteristic 2: $j = 0$

1.52. Since $j = 0$ we have

$$b_2 = b_4 = c_1 = c_2 = 0 \text{ and } b_6 = a_3^2,$$

so that $\Delta = -b_2^2 b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2 b_4 b_6 = b_6^2 = a_3^4$.

Moreover

$$\begin{aligned} f(x + a_2, y) &= y^2 + a_3 y + (x^3 + a_2 x^2 + a_2^2 x + a_2^3) + a_2(x^2 + a_2^2) + a_4(x + a_2) + a_6 \\ &= y^2 + a_3 y + x^3 + (a_4 + a_2^2)x + (a_6 + a_2 a_4 + a_2^3) \end{aligned}$$

As a consequence

Lemma 1.53. *If $a_1 = 0$, then*

- (1) $\Delta = 0 \iff a_3 = 0$;
- (2) *we can wlog assume $a_2 = 0$.*

Lemma 1.54. *Let $\beta, \gamma \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}$ such that $\beta^2 = a_4, \gamma^2 = a_6$.*

If $a_1 = 0$, (β, γ) is a singular point if and only if $a_3 = 0$.

Proof. We have

- (1) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = x^2 + a_4$,
- (2) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = a_1 x + a_3 = a_3$,
- (3) $f(x, y) = y^2 + a_3 y + (x^2 + a_4)x + a_6$.

so that, if there is a singular point (x_0, y_0) then

- (2) $a_3 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = 0$,
- (1) $0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x_0, y_0) = x_0^2 + a_4$ so that $x_0 = \beta$,
- (3) $0 = f(x_0, y_0) = y_0^2 + a_6$ so that $y_0 = \gamma$;

conversily, if $a_3 = 0$, then

- (1) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(\beta, \gamma) = \beta^2 + a_4 = 0$,
- (2) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(\beta, \gamma) = a_3 = 0$,
- (3) $f(\beta, \gamma) = \gamma^2 + a_3 \gamma + (\beta^2 + a_4)\beta + a_6 = \gamma^2 + a_6 = 0$.

□

Corollary 1.55. *If $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) = 2$ and $a_1 = 0$, an elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1) is singular if and only if $\Delta = 0$.*

1.56. The admissible isomorphisms (1.11) between

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_3 y + x^3 + a_4 x + a_6 \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 + a'_3 y' + x'^3 + a'_4 x'^2 + a_6,$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = a'_2 &:= \frac{a_2 - a_1 s + 3r - s^2}{u^2} &\implies r &= s^2 \\ a'_3 &:= \frac{a_3 + a_1 r + 2t}{u^3} &\implies u^3 &= \frac{a_3}{a'_3} \\ a'_4 &:= \frac{a_4 - s a_3 + 2a_2 r - a_1(rs+t) + 3r^2 - 2st}{u^4} &\implies a'_4 &= \frac{a_4 + s a_3 + s^4}{u^4} \\ a'_6 &:= \frac{a_6 - a_1 r t + a_2 r^2 - a_3 t + a_4 r + r^3 - t^2}{u^6} &\implies a'_6 &= \frac{a_6 + a_3 t + a_4 s^2 + s^6 + t^2}{u^6}, \end{aligned}$$

are

$$x = u^2 x' + s^2, \quad y = u^3 y' + u^2 s x' + t$$

and must satisfy

$$u^3 = \frac{a_3}{a'_3}, \quad s^4 + a_3 s + a_4 - u^4 a'_4 = 0, \quad t^2 + a_3 t + s^6 + a_4 s^2 + a_6 - u^6 a'_6 = 0$$

Corollary 1.57. *Denote*

- $g_1(x) := x^3 + \frac{a_3}{a_3'} \in \mathbb{F}[x]$,
- $\mathbb{K}_1 := \mathbb{F}[x]/g_1(x)$ which is a separable extension since $g_1'(x) \neq 0$,
- $u \in \mathbb{K}_1$ s.t. $g_1(u) = 0$;
- $g_2(x, y) := y^4 + a_3y + a_4 - x^4a_4' \in \mathbb{F}[x, y]$,
- $h_2(y) := g_2(u, y) = y^4 + a_3y + a_4 - u^4a_4' \in \mathbb{K}_1[y]$,
- $\mathbb{K}_2 := \mathbb{K}_1[y]/h_2(y) = \mathbb{F}[x, y]/\mathbb{I}(g_1(x), g_2(x, y))$ which is a separable extension since $h_2'(y) = a_3 \neq 0$;
- $s \in \mathbb{K}_2$ s.t. $h_2(s) = 0$;
- $g_3(x, y, z) := z^2 + a_3z + y^6 + a_4y^2 + a_6 - x^6a_6' \in \mathbb{F}[x, y, z]$,
- $h_3(x, y, z) := g_2(u, s, z) = z^2 + a_3z + s^6 + a_4s^2 + a_6 - u^6a_6' \in \mathbb{K}_2[z]$,
- $\mathbb{K}_3 := \mathbb{K}_2[z]/h_3(z) = \mathbb{F}[x, y, z]/\mathbb{I}(g_1(x), g_2(x, y), g_3(x, y, z))$ which is a separable extension since $h_3'(z) = a_3 \neq 0$;
- $t \in \mathbb{K}_3$ s.t. $h_3(t) = 0$.

Then the two curves f, f' with the same invariant $j = 0$ are isomorphic via

$$x = u^2x' + s^2, \quad y = u^3y' + u^2sx' + t$$

Corollary 1.58. The 24 automorphisms of $f(x, y) = y^2 + a_3y + x^3 + a_4x + a_6$ are given by the triple (u, s, t) satisfying the equations

$$u^3 = 1, \quad s^4 + a_3s + a_4(1 - u) = 0, \quad t^2 + a_3t + s^6 + a_4s^2 + a_6(1 - u) = 0.$$

Lemma 1.59. The curve

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - y - x^3$$

has 0 as invariant.

1.17 Elliptic curve in characteristic 2: $j \neq 0$

1.60. It is sufficient to properly choose r, s, t in (1.11) in order to obtain $a_1' = 1, a_3' = 0, a_4' = 0$. In fact (see Fig.1.2)

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = a_1' &= \frac{a_1}{u} && \iff u = \frac{a_1}{a_1'} \\ 0 = a_3' &:= \frac{a_3 + a_1r}{u^3} && \iff r = \frac{a_3}{a_1} \\ 0 = a_4' &:= \frac{a_4 - sa_3 + 2a_2r - a_1(rs+t) + 3r^2 - 2st}{u^4} \\ &= \frac{a_4 - s(a_3 + a_1r) - a_1t + r^2}{u^4} && \\ &= \frac{a_4 - a_1t + r^2}{u^4} && \iff t = \frac{a_4 + r^2}{a_1} = \frac{a_1^2 a_4 + a_3^2}{a_1^3} \end{aligned}$$

1.61. For

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 = 0$$

we have

$$b_2 = 1, b_4 = b_6 = 0, c_4 = c_6 = 1 \text{ and } b_8 = a_6,$$

so that $\Delta = -b_2^2b_8 - 8b_4^3 - 27b_6^2 + 9b_2b_4b_6 = a_6$ and $j = a_6^{-1}$.

Lemma 1.62. If $a_1 \neq 0$, $(0, 0)$ is a singular point if and only if $a_6 = 0$.

Proof. We have

- (1) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = y + x^2$,
- (2) $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = x$,
- (3) $f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6$.

so that, if there is a singular point (x_0, y_0) then

- (2) $x_0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_0, y_0) = 0$,
- (1) $0 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, y_0) = y_0$,

$$(3) \quad 0 = f(0, 0) = a_6;$$

conversily, if $a_6 = 0$, then

$$(1) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) = 0,$$

$$(2) \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(0, 0) = 0,$$

$$(3) \quad f(0, 0) = a_6 = 0.$$

□

Corollary 1.63. *If $\text{char}(\mathbb{F}) = 2$ and $a_1 \neq 0$, an elliptic curve given by a Weierstrass equation (1.1) is singular if and only if $\Delta = 0$.*

1.64. The admissible isomorphisms (1.11) between

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 + x'y' + x'^3 + a'_2x'^2 + a_6,$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} 1 = a'_1 &= \frac{a_1}{u} &\implies u &= 1 \\ 0 = a'_3 &:= \frac{a_3 + a_1r + 2t}{u^3} &\implies r &= 0 \\ 0 = a'_4 &:= \frac{a_4 - s(a_3 + a_1r) - a_1t + r^2}{u^4} &\implies t &= 0 \\ a'_6 &:= \frac{a_6 - a_1rt + a_2r^2 - a_3t + a_4r + r^3 - t^2}{u^6} &\implies a'_6 &= a_6 \\ a'_2 &:= \frac{a_2 - a_1s + 3r - s^2}{u^2} &\implies a'_2 &= a_2 - s - s^2, \end{aligned}$$

are

$$x = x', \quad y = y' + sx'$$

and must satisfy

$$a'_2 = a_2 - s - s^2 \text{ and } a'_6 = a_6.$$

Corollary 1.65. *Denote $g(x) := x^2 + x + a_2 + a'_2 \in \mathbb{F}[x]$ and $\mathbb{K} := \mathbb{F}[x]/g(x)$ which is a separable extension since $g'(x) = 1$ and let $s \in \mathbb{K}$ be s.t. $g(s) = 0$.*

Then the two curves f, f' with the same invariant $j = a_6^{-1} = a'_6^{-1}$ are isomorphic via

$$x = x', \quad y = y' + sx'$$

Corollary 1.66. *The two automorphisms of $f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6$ are obtained setting $s = 0, 1$, namely*

$$x = x', y = y' \text{ and } x = x', y = y' + x'$$

Lemma 1.67. *For each $j \in \mathbb{F}, j \neq 0$, the curve*

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + j^{-1}$$

has j as invariant.

1.68. For

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 = 0$$

we have $x \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} + y = x^2$ so that for $P = (x, y)$ the point $(x_3, y_3) := P + P$ satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
x_3 &= \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)^2 + a_1 \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} - a_2 - 2x \\
&= \left(\frac{x^2 + y}{x}\right)^2 + \frac{x^2 + y}{x} + a_2 \\
&= \left(\frac{x^4 + y^2}{x^2} + \frac{x^2 + y}{x} + a_2\right) \\
&= \left(\frac{x^4 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6}{x^2} + \frac{x^2 + y}{x} + a_2\right) \\
&= \frac{(x^4 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6 + x(x^2 + y) + a_2x^2)}{x^2} \\
&= \frac{x^4 + a_6}{x^2} \\
y^3 &= -\left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} + a_1\right)x_3 - \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}x - y - a_3 \\
&= \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}x_3 + \frac{\partial y}{\partial x}x + x_3 + y \\
&= \frac{x^2 + y}{x}x_3 + x^2 + y + x_3 + y \\
&= \frac{x^2 + y}{x}x_3 + x^2 + x_3 + y
\end{aligned}$$

1.18 Elliptic curve in characteristic 3

1.69. Let us consider a non singular elliptic curve

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + a_1xy + a_3y + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_4x + a_6 = 0$$

in a field \mathbb{F} , $\text{char } \mathbb{F} = 3$.

Since $2 = -1$ and $4 = 1$ in \mathbb{F} we can perform the transformation $y \rightarrow y + a_1y + a_3$ and express the curve via the equation (1.2)

$$y^2 = x^3 + b_2x^2 - b_4x + b_6,$$

with

$$b_2 = a_2, b_4 = -a_4, b_6 = a_6, b_8 = a_2a_6 - a_4^2, c_4 = b_2^2 = a_2^2, c_6 = -b_2^3 = -a_2^3$$

so that

$$\Delta = -b_2^2b_8 - b_4^3 = a_2^2a_4^2 - a_2^3a_6 - a_4^3$$

and $j = \frac{a_2^6}{\Delta}$.

Thus there are two different cases; either

- $a_2 = 0 \iff j = 0$ or
- $a_2 \neq 0 \iff j \neq 0$

1.19 Elliptic curve in characteristic 3: $j \neq 0$

1.70. For $f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - b_2x^2 + b_4x - b_6$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x + \alpha, y) &= y^2 - (x + \alpha)^3 - b_2(x + \alpha)^2 + b_4(x + \alpha) - b_6 \\
&= y^2 - (x^3 + \alpha^3) - b_2(x^2 - \alpha x + \alpha^2) + b_4(x + \alpha) - b_6 \\
&= y^2 - x^3 - b_2x^2 + (b_2\alpha + b_4)x - (\alpha^3 + b_2\alpha^2 - b_4\alpha + b_6)
\end{aligned}$$

and it is sufficient to set

$$\alpha := -\frac{b_4}{b_2}, \text{ and } a_6 := \alpha^3 + b_2\alpha^2 - b_4\alpha + b_6$$

in order to present the curve as

$$f'(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - a_2x^2 - a_6$$

with $c_4 = a_2^2, \Delta = -a_2^3a_6$ and $j = \frac{a_2^6}{-a_2^3a_6} = -\frac{a_2^3}{a_6}$.

1.71. The admissible isomorphism between

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - a_2x^2 - a_6 \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 - x'^3 - a'_2x'^2 - a'_6$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = a'_1 &= \frac{a_1+2s}{u} &\implies s &= 0 \\ 0 = a'_3 &:= \frac{a_3+a_1r+2t}{u^3} &\implies t &= 0 \\ 0 = a'_4 &:= \frac{a_4-sa_3+2a_2r-a_1(rs+t)+3r^2-2st}{u^4} &\implies r &= 0 \\ a'_2 &:= \frac{a_2-a_1s+3r-s^2}{u^2} &\implies a'_2 &= \frac{a_2}{u^2} \\ a'_6 &:= \frac{a_6-a_1rt+a_2r^2-a_3t+a_4r+r^3-t^2}{u^6} &\implies a'_6 &= \frac{a_6}{u^2} \end{aligned}$$

are

$$x = u^2x', \quad y = u^3y''$$

and must satisfy

$$u^2a'_2 = a_2 \text{ and } u^6a'_6 = a_6.$$

1.72. If the two curves f, f' have the same invariant $j = -\frac{a_2^3}{a_6} = -\frac{a'_2{}^3}{a'_6}$ then $\frac{a'_6}{a_6} = \left(\frac{a'_2}{a_2}\right)^3$.

Corollary 1.73. The two curves f, f' with the same invariant $j = -\frac{a_2^3}{a_6} = -\frac{a'_2{}^3}{a'_6}$ are isomorphic via

$$x = u^2x', \quad y = u^3y'$$

where $u^2 = \left(\frac{a_2}{a'_2}\right)$.

Corollary 1.74. The two automorphisms of $f(x, y) = y^2 + xy + x^3 + a_2x^2 + a_6$ are obtained setting $u = \pm 1$, namely

$$x = x', y = y' \text{ and } x = x', y = -y''$$

Lemma 1.75. For each $j \in \mathbb{F}, j \neq 0$, the curve

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3 - x^2 - j^{-1}$$

has j as invariant.

1.20 Elliptic curve in characteristic 3: $j = 0$

1.76. Since $a_2 = 0$ we have

$$b_2 = 0, b_4 = -a_4, b_6 = a_6, b_8 = -a_4^2; c_4 = c_6 = 0$$

so that $\Delta = b_4^3 = -a_4^3$.

1.77. The admissible isomorphism between

$$f(x, y) = y^2 + x^3 + a_4x + a_6 \text{ and } f'(x', y') = y'^2 + x'^3 + a'_4x'^2 + a'_6$$

since

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = a'_2 &:= \frac{a_2-a_1s+3r-s^2}{u^2} &\implies s &= 0 \\ 0 = a'_3 &:= \frac{a_3+a_1r+2t}{u^3} &\implies t &= 0 \\ a'_4 &:= \frac{a_4-sa_3+2a_2r-a_1(rs+t)+3r^2-2st}{u^4} &\implies a'_4 &= \frac{a_4}{u^4} \\ a'_6 &:= \frac{a_6-a_1rt+a_2r^2-a_3t+a_4r+r^3-t^2}{u^6} &\implies a'_6 &= \frac{a_6+a_4r+r^3}{u^6} \end{aligned}$$

are

$$x = u^2x' + r, \quad y = u^3y'$$

and must satisfy

$$u^4 = \frac{a_4}{a'_4}, \quad u^6a'_6 = a_6 + a_4r + r^3.$$

Corollary 1.78. Denote

- $g_1(x) := x^4 + \frac{a_4}{a'_4} \in \mathbb{F}[x]$,
- $\mathbb{K}_1 := \mathbb{F}[x]/g_1(x)$ which is a separable extension since $g'_1(x) = 1$,
- $u \in \mathbb{K}_1$ s.t. $g_1(u) = 0$;

- $g_2(x, y) := y^3 + a_4y + a_6 - x^6a'_6 \in \mathbb{F}[x, y]$,
- $h_2(y) := g_2(u, y) = y^3 + a_4y + a_6 - x^6a'_6 \in \mathbb{K}_1[y]$,
- $\mathbb{K}_2 := \mathbb{K}_1[y]/h_2(y) = \mathbb{F}[x, y]/\mathbb{I}(g_1(x), g_2(x, y))$ which is a separable extension since $h'_2(y) = a_4 \neq 0$;
- $r \in \mathbb{K}_2$ s.t. $h_2(r) = 0$;

Then the two curves f, f' with the same invariant $j = 0$ are isomorphic via

$$x = u^2x' + r, \quad y = u^3y'.$$

Corollary 1.79. *The 12 automorphisms of $f(x, y) = y^2 + x^3 + a_4x + a_6$ are given by the pairs (u, r) satisfying the equations*

$$u^4 = 1, \quad r^3 + a_4r + a_6(1 - u^2) = 0.$$

More precisely they are the 12 pairs (u, r) such that either

$$r^3 + a_4r = 0 \text{ and } u = 1, \text{ or}$$

$$r^3 + a_4r = 0 \text{ and } u = -1, \text{ or}$$

$$r^3 + a_4r + 2a_6 = 0 \text{ and } u = \alpha, \text{ or}$$

$$r^3 + a_4r + 2a_6 \text{ and } u = -\alpha,$$

where $\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{\text{sep}}$ is such that $\alpha^2 = -1$.

Lemma 1.80. *The curve*

$$f(x, y) = y^2 - x^3$$

has 0 as invariant.