

**Homework** due Wednesday December 1.

Read Chapters 5 and 6 of An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers.

**Problems to turn in:**

Problem 1. Let  $C$  be a non-singular cubic equation given by

$$y^2 = f(x) = x^3 + ax + b.$$

Prove that

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = \frac{2f''(x)f(x) - f'(x)^2}{4yf(x)}.$$

Using this expression deduce that a point has order dividing three if and only if the point is an inflection point of  $C$ . Assuming  $a$  and  $b$  are real show that the numerator of the above expression has exactly two real roots  $c < d$ . Show  $f(c) < 0$  and  $f(d) > 0$ . Deduce that the real points of order dividing three on  $C$  form a cyclic group of order 3.

Problem 2. Let  $p$  be a prime number. Let  $C$  be the elliptic curve

$$y^2 = x^3 + px.$$

Determine all the rational points of finite order on  $C$ .

Problem 3. For the following elliptic curves determine all the rational points of finite order.

a)  $y^2 = x^3 - 2,$

b)  $y^2 = x^3 + 8,$

c)  $y^2 = x^3 + 4x,$

d)  $y^2 = x^3 - 4x$

page 248 section 5.5 problems: 1, 4, 6

page 260 section 5.6 problems: 2, 4, 5, 9, 14

page 278 section 5.7 problems: 3, 4, 10, 11