

# Proof of Nagell-Lutz theorem.

$E: y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad / \quad (1)$       General equation:  $y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c$ .

Let  $f(x) = (x - \alpha_1)(x - \alpha_2)(x - \alpha_3)$  over the complex numbers,

$$= x^3 - \underbrace{(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)}_a x^2 + \underbrace{(\alpha_1\alpha_2 + \alpha_1\alpha_3 + \alpha_2\alpha_3)}_b x - \underbrace{\alpha_1\alpha_2\alpha_3}_c$$

$$D = (\alpha_1 - \alpha_2)^2 (\alpha_1 - \alpha_3)^2 (\alpha_2 - \alpha_3)^2$$

$$= -4a^3c + a^2b^2 + 18abc - 4b^3 - 27c^2$$

There exists polynomials  $r(x)$  and  $s(x)$  so that

$$D = r(x) f(x) + s(x) f'(x)$$

and  $r(x), s(x)$  have integer coefficients.

$$\begin{cases} r(x) = (-18b - 6a^2)x - (4a^3 - 15ab + 27c) \\ s(x) = (2a^2 - 6b)x^2 + (2a^3 - 7ab + 9c)x + (a^2b + 3ac - 4b^2) \end{cases}$$

Now the doubling formula says: for  $P$  with  $y \neq 0$ ,  $2P$  is not at  $\infty$  and.

$$P(x_1, y_1) \mapsto 2P = (x_2, y_2), \quad x_2 = \lambda^2 - a - 2x_1 \quad \text{where } \lambda = \frac{f'(x_1)}{2y_1}$$

Assume  $P$  and  $2P$  have integer coefficients:

$$\text{then } \lambda^2 = x_2^2 + a + 2x_1 \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ so } \lambda \in \mathbb{Z}, \text{ and } 2y_1 \mid f'(x_1).$$

$$\text{Now use } D = r(x) \underbrace{f(x_1)}_{y_1 \mid f(x_1)} + s(x) \underbrace{f'(x_1)}_{y_1 \mid f'(x_1)} \Rightarrow y_1 \mid D.$$

[Lemma. Let  $P(x_1, y_1)$  be a point on our cubic curve  $E: y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c$  such that  $P$  and  $2P$  have integer coordinates. Then either  $y = 0$  or  $y \mid D$ .

## Proof of Nagell-Lutz theorem part II.

- Points of finite order have integer coordinates.

Definition: **valuation**. Let  $m$  an integer ( $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) and  $p$  a prime.

The VALUATION of  $m$  at  $p$  is the order (or multiplicity) of  $p$  in the factorization of  $m$  in other words, the largest integer  $v$  such that

$$p^v \mid m, \quad p^{v+1} \nmid m.$$

The definition extends to  $\mathbb{Q}$ :  $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ ,  $\frac{m}{n} \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\text{val}_p\left(\frac{m}{n}\right) = \text{val}_p(m) - \text{val}_p(n)$ , the valuation at the denominator is positive.

We can write  $\frac{m}{n} = \frac{m'}{n'} p^{\text{val}_p(m/n)}$  and  $m', n'$  are coprime to  $p$ .

To show that a rational  $m^{\frac{m/m/d}{m/d}}$  is actually an integer, we will show that  $m$  is not divisible by any prime  $p \geq 2$ , hence the denominator is 1.

Let  $P(x, y) \in E(\mathbb{Q})$ . Say  $p$  divides the denominator of  $x$ ,

$$x = \frac{m}{n p^{\mu}} \quad \text{and} \quad y = \frac{u}{w p^{\sigma}} \quad , \quad m, n, u, w \text{ coprime to } p, \quad \mu, \sigma > 0.$$

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c :$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{u^2}{w^2 p^{2\sigma}} &= \frac{m^3}{n^3 p^{3\mu}} + a \frac{m^2}{n^2 p^{2\mu}} + b \frac{m}{n p^{\mu}} + c \\ &= \frac{m^3 + a m^2 n p^{\mu} + b m n^2 p^{2\mu} + c n^3 p^{3\mu}}{n^3 p^{3\mu}} \end{aligned}$$

look at the numerator mod  $p$ : this is  $m^3 \pmod{p}$  and  $\gcd(m, p) = 1$  by assumption, hence the numerator is coprime to  $p$ .

On the left-hand side,  $w^2, u^2$  are coprime to  $p$ .

$$\text{val}_p\left(\frac{u^2}{w^2 p^{2\sigma}}\right) = 2\sigma = \text{val}_p\left(\frac{m^3 + a m^2 n p^{\mu} + \dots}{n^3 p^{3\mu}}\right) = 3\mu$$

$$\Rightarrow 2\sigma = 3\mu > 0. \quad \Rightarrow 2 \mid \mu, \quad 3 \mid \sigma,$$

hence  $\sigma = 3\nu$  and  $\mu = 2\nu$  for some  $\nu > 0$  integer.

If we start with  $\sigma > 0$ , we arrive exactly at the same point:  $\sigma = 3\nu$  and  $\mu = 2\nu$  for  $\nu > 0$

Hence if  $p$  divides the denominator of  $x$  or  $y$ , then it divides both, and

$$p^{3\nu} \mid \text{denom}(y), \quad p^{2\nu} \mid \text{denom}(x).$$

We define  $E(p^\nu) = \{ (x, y) \in E(\mathbb{Q}) : \text{ord}_p(x) \leq -2\nu \text{ and } \text{ord}_p(y) \leq -3\nu \}$

$$E(\mathbb{Q}) \supset E(p) \supset E(p^2) \supset E(p^3) \supset \dots$$

and let  $O \in E(p^\nu)$  for all  $\nu$ .

$\rightarrow$  We want to show that  $P(x, y) \notin E(p)$ .

$\downarrow$  We will show that  $E(p^\nu)$  are subgroups.  
 $\rightarrow E(p^\nu)$  is stable by addition, dbl, subtraction.

First we need a change of variables.

$$t = \frac{x}{y} \quad \text{and} \quad s = \frac{1}{y}$$

$y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c$  becomes

$$\frac{1}{y^3} = \frac{x^3}{y^3} + \frac{a}{y} \frac{x^2}{y^2} + \frac{b}{y^2} \frac{x}{y} + \frac{c}{y^3}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow s = t^3 + a s t^2 + b s^2 t + c s^3$$

inverse change of variables:  $y = 1/s$  and  $x = t/s$ .

$O$  in  $(x, y) \Leftrightarrow (0, 0)$  in  $(t, s)$

$(x, 0)$  does not have a correspondance in  $(t, s)$ : we miss the points of order 2.

Let  $L$  a line in the  $(x, y)$  plane:  $y = \lambda x + \mu \Leftrightarrow \frac{y}{\mu y} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} \frac{x}{y} + \frac{\mu}{\mu y} \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{\lambda}{\mu} t + \frac{1}{\mu}$

$$\Leftrightarrow s = -\frac{\lambda}{\mu} t + \frac{1}{\mu}$$

Let's add  $P(t_1, s_1)$  and  $Q(t_2, s_2)$  on  $G$ :  $t^3 + a s t^2 + b s^2 t + c s^3 - s = 0$

$$(P): t_1^3 + a s_1 t_1^2 + b s_1^2 t_1 + c s_1^3 - s_1 = 0 \quad (Q): t_1^3 - t_2^3 + a(s_1 t_1^2 - s_2 t_2^2) + b(s_1^2 t_1 - s_2^2 t_2) + c(s_1^3 - s_2^3) - (s_1 - s_2) = 0$$

$$(Q): t_2^3 + a s_2 t_2^2 + b s_2^2 t_2 + c s_2^3 - s_2 = 0$$

$$= (t_1 - t_2)(t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2) + a((t_1^2 - t_2^2)(s_1) + t_2^2(s_1 - s_2)) + b((t_1 - t_2)s_1^2 + t_2(s_1^2 - s_2^2)) + c(s_1 - s_2)(s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2) - (s_1 - s_2) = 0$$

divide by  $t_1 - t_2$

$$(t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2) + a((t_1 + t_2)s_1 + t_2^2 \frac{(s_1 - s_2)}{t_1 - t_2}) + b(s_1^2 + t_2 \frac{(s_1 - s_2)(s_1 + s_2)}{t_1 - t_2}) + c(s_1 - s_2)(s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2) - (s_1 - s_2) = 0$$

Addition on the ~~line~~ curve

$$s_1 - s_2 = (t_1 - t_2)(t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2) + a(t_1 - t_2)(t_1 + t_2)s_1 + t_2^2(s_1 - s_2) + b((t_1 - t_2)(\cancel{t_1 + t_2})s_1^2 + t_2(s_1 - s_2)(s_1 + s_2)) + c(s_1 - s_2)(s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)$$

$$\frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} = t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2 + a((t_1 + t_2)s_1 + t_2^2 \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2}) + b((\cancel{t_1 + t_2})s_1^2 + t_2 \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2}(s_1 + s_2)) + c \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2}(s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)$$

$$\frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} - a t_2^2 \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} + b t_2 (s_1 + s_2) \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} + c \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} (s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)$$

$$= t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2 + a(t_1 + t_2)s_1 + b(\cancel{t_1 + t_2})s_1^2$$

$$\frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} (1 - a t_2^2 - b t_2 (s_1 + s_2) - c (s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)) = \dots$$

$$\frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} = \frac{t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2 + a(t_1 + t_2)s_1 + b(\cancel{t_1 + t_2})s_1^2}{\textcircled{1} - a t_2^2 - b t_2 (s_1 + s_2) - c (s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)}$$

the denominator mod  $p$  is  $\textcircled{1}$  as if  $p^2 \mid t_i, p^{3a} \mid s_i$ , the denominator is  $\pm 1$ .

in other words,  $\lambda = \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2}$  has ~~strictly~~ non-negative valuation at  $p$  (after simplifying the fraction)

hence  $\lambda$  is well-defined.

Now the addition:  $\mathcal{L}$  through  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  intersects  $\mathcal{C}$  in a 3rd point  $P_3$ .

$$\mathcal{L}: s = \lambda(t - t_1) + s_1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1}$$

$$\frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1$$

$$(t - t_1)(t - t_2)(t - \tilde{t}_3) = t^3 - (t_1 + t_2 + \tilde{t}_3)t^2 + \dots$$

$$s = t^3 + a s t^2 + b s^2 t + c s^3$$

$$\frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1 = t^3 + a \left( \frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1 \right) t^2 + b \left( \frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1 \right)^2 t + c \left( \frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1 \right)^3$$

Let's write it in terms of  $t$ .  $\rightarrow$  cubic equation.

$$t^3 + a(\lambda t - \lambda t_1 + s_1)t^2 + b(\lambda^2(t^2 - 2t_1 t + t_1^2) + s_1^2 + 2s_1 \lambda(t - t_1))t + c(\lambda^3(t - t_1)^3 + \dots)$$

$$(t^3 + a\lambda t^2 + b\lambda^2 t^3 + c\lambda^3 t^3) + \text{lower terms in } t.$$

$$1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3 = -t_1 - t_2 - \tilde{t}_3 \rightarrow -\tilde{t}_3 = 1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3 + t_1 + t_2$$

$E: s = t^3 + at^2 + bs^2t + cs^3$

$L: s = \frac{s_2 - s_1}{t_2 - t_1} (t - t_1) + s_1$  and  $L(t_1, s_1)$  is true,  $L(t_2, s_2)$  is true.

$L: s = \lambda t - \lambda t_1 + s_1$  and we just saw that the denominator of  $\lambda$  is coprime to  $p$ .

$s^2 = (\lambda t + s_1 - \lambda t_1)^2 = \lambda^2 t^2 + 2\lambda t(s_1 - \lambda t_1) + (s_1 - \lambda t_1)^2$

$s^3 = \lambda^3 t^3 + 3\lambda^2 t^2(s_1 - \lambda t_1) + 3\lambda t(s_1 - \lambda t_1)^2 + (s_1 - \lambda t_1)^3$

$L \cap E: t^3 + a(\lambda(t - t_1) + s_1)t^2 + b(\lambda^2 t^2 + 2\lambda t(s_1 - \lambda t_1) + (s_1 - \lambda t_1)^2)t + c(\lambda^3 t^3 + 3\lambda^2 t^2(s_1 - \lambda t_1) + 3\lambda t(s_1 - \lambda t_1)^2 + (s_1 - \lambda t_1)^3) - (\lambda(t - t_1) + s_1) = 0.$

$t^3 + a\lambda t^3 + b\lambda^2 t^3 + c\lambda^3 t^3 + a(-\lambda t_1 + s_1)t^2 + b(2\lambda(s_1 - \lambda t_1))t^2 + c \cdot 3\lambda^2 t^2(s_1 - \lambda t_1) + \text{lower terms in } t = 0.$

$(1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3)t^3 + (a(-\lambda t_1 + s_1) + b(2\lambda(s_1 - \lambda t_1)) + 3c\lambda^2(s_1 - \lambda t_1))t^2 + \dots = 0$

$(1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3)t^3 + (s_1 - \lambda t_1)(a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2)t^2 + \dots = 0$

coprime to  $p$ .  
we divide by the leading coefficient to get a monic polynomial:

$t^3 + \underbrace{(s_1 - \lambda t_1)}_{\beta} \frac{a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2}{1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3} t^2 + \dots = 0.$

$(t - t_1)(t - t_2)(t - t_3)$

$\rightarrow t_1 + t_2 + t_3 = (\lambda t_1 - s_1) \frac{a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2}{1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3} = t^3 - (t_1 + t_2 + t_3)t^2 + \dots$

$t_3 = (\lambda t_1 - s_1) \frac{a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2}{1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3} - t_1 - t_2$

by assumption,  $p \mid t_1$  and  $p \mid t_2$ , and we obtained previously that  $p \mid \lambda$  but  $p \nmid \text{denominator}(\lambda)$ .  
(but  $p \nmid \text{denominator}(t_1)$ ,  $p \nmid \text{denominator}(t_2)$ )

more precisely:  $\lambda = \frac{s_1 - s_2}{t_1 - t_2} = \frac{t_1^2 + t_1 t_2 + t_2^2 + a(t_1 + t_2)s_1 + b s_1^2}{1 - at_2^2 - bt_2(s_1 + s_2) - c(s_1^2 + s_1 s_2 + s_2^2)}$

$p^i \mid t_1, p^j \mid t_2$

$= \frac{t_1^{2i} p^{2i} + p^{i+j} t_1^i t_2^j + p^{2j} t_2^{2j}}{\text{denom coprime to } p} + a p^i (t_1 + t_2 p^{j-i}) p^{s_i} s_1 + b p^{s_i} s_1^2 = p^{2i} \cdot \text{something}$

$\rightarrow \text{val}_p(\lambda) \geq 2 \text{val}_p(t_1)$

$\text{val}_p(\lambda t_1 - s_1) = 3 \text{val}_p(t_1)$

$$t_3 = (\lambda t_1 - s_1) \frac{a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2}{1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3} - t_1 - t_2$$

and we showed that  $\text{val}_p(t_3) \geq \text{val}_p(t_1)$ .

more precisely,

$$t_1 + t_2 + t_3 = (\lambda t_1 - s_1) \frac{a + 2b\lambda + 3c\lambda^2}{1 + a\lambda + b\lambda^2 + c\lambda^3} \text{ has valuation at } p \geq 3 \text{ val}_p(t_1) = 3i.$$

$$P_1 + P_2 = (-t_3, -s_3)$$

Doubling: what is  $\lambda$ ?  $\mathcal{C}: s = t^3 + at^2 + bs^2t + cs^3$   
 $\Leftrightarrow t^3 + at^2 + bs^2t + cs^3 - s = 0.$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{C}}{\partial t} = 3t^2 + 2ast + bs^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{C}}{\partial s} = at^2 + 2bst + 3cs^2 - 1$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{C} / \partial t}{\partial \mathcal{C} / \partial s} = \frac{\partial s}{\partial t} = -\frac{3t^2 + 2ast + bs^2}{1 - at^2 - 2bst - 3cs^2} = -\lambda.$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3t_1^2 + 2at_1s_1 + bs_1^2}{1 - at_1^2 - 2bt_1s_1 - 3cs_1^2} \quad \text{same formula with } t_1 = t_2 \text{ as before (was } \frac{t_1^2 + t_1t_2 + t_2^2 + a(t_1+t_2)s_1 + bs_1^2}{1 - at_2^2 - bt_2(s_1+s_2) - c(s_1^2 + s_1s_2 + s_2^2)}$$

in conclusion, for addition and doubling, one has the same  $\lambda$  and  $t_3, s_3$ ,

$$\text{and } t_1 + t_2 + t_3 \equiv 0 \pmod{p^{3i}}.$$