

13. (i) Suppose that  $k$  is a subfield of  $\mathbb{C}$ , and let  $C \subset \mathbb{P}_k^2$  be a nonsingular cubic curve. Show that  $C$  meets any line  $L$  of  $\mathbb{P}^2$  in 3 points “counted with multiplicities”, and describe briefly how multiple intersections of  $L$  and  $C$  relate to geometric notions of tangency and inflexion.
- (ii) Suppose that  $C : (Y^2Z = X^3 + aXZ^2 + bZ^3)$ , and let  $O = (0, 1, 0)$ ; show how to construct a group law on  $C$  with  $O$  as origin; your construction must be everywhere defined, and you should explain the construction of the inverse, but need not prove the group axioms.
- (iii) Suppose  $C$  is given in affine coordinates by  $C : (y^2 = x^3 + x^2 + 3x - 1)$ ; write down the tangent line to  $C$  at  $P = (1, 2) \in C$ , and show that  $P$  generates a subgroup of  $C$  of order 3.

or the same with (iii) replaced by

- (iii') Suppose  $C$  is given in affine coordinates by  $C : (y^2 = x^3 + 3x)$  and consider the points  $P = (0, 0)$  and  $Q = (1, -2) \in C$ . Show that  $P + Q = R = (3, 6)$  in the group law of  $C$ , and determine the point  $Q + R$ .
- (iii') Suppose  $C$  is given in affine coordinates by  $C : (y^2 = x^3 + 1)$ , and let  $P = (2, 3)$  and  $Q = (0, 1) \in C$ . Calculate  $P + Q$  in the group law. Calculate the tangent line to  $C$  at  $P$ , and using this, show that  $2P = Q$ . Prove that  $P$  generates a subgroup of  $C$  of order 6. [Hint: The tangent line to  $C$  at  $Q$  is  $(y = 1)$ .]
- (iii') Suppose  $C$  is given in affine coordinates by  $C : (Y^2 = X^3 + 4X)$ , and as usual  $O$  is chosen to be the point at infinity. Show that the tangent line to  $C$  at  $P = (2, 4)$  passes through  $(0, 0)$ , and deduce that  $P$  is a point of order 4 in the group law.