## A REMARK ON THE INJECTIVITY OF THE SPECIALIZATION HOMOMORPHISM

# IVICA GUSIĆ AND PETRA TADIĆ University of Zagreb, Croatia

Abstract. Let

$$E: y^{2} = (x - e_{1})(x - e_{2})(x - e_{3}),$$

be a nonconstant elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ . We give sufficient conditions for a specialization homomorphism to be injective, based on the unique factorization in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

The result is applied for calculating exactly the Mordell-Weil group of several elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  coming from a paper by Rubin and Silverberg.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Let E = E(T) be a nonconstant elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ , i.e. an elliptic curve that is not isomorphic over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  to an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . By Silverman's specialization theorem ([6, Theorem III.11.4]), for all but finitely many  $t \in \mathbb{Q}$ , the specialization homomorphism

$$E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to E(t)(\mathbb{Q})$$

is injective, where E(t) is the specialization of E(T). Therefore the rank of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  is finite and, by Mazur's theorem, the torsion group of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  is one of the following groups:

(1.1) 
$$\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, \ 1 \le n \le 10 \text{ or } n = 12, \text{ or } \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2n\mathbb{Z}, \ 1 \le n \le 4.$$

Here we observe nonconstant elliptic curves E over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  given by an equation of the form

(1.2) 
$$E: y^2 = (x - e_1)(x - e_2)(x - e_3), \ e_1, e_2, e_3 \in \mathbb{Z}[T],$$

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification. 11G05, 14H52.

 $Key\ words\ and\ phrases.$  Elliptic curve, specialization homomorphism, rank, generators.

265

and give sufficient conditions on the coefficients of the curve (specifically  $e_1(T), e_2(T), e_3(T)$ ) for a specialization homomorphism to be an injection. The details are in Section 3. Basically the factorization in the unique factorization domains  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$  and  $\mathbb{Z}$  plays a crucial role in the question of the injectivity of the specialization homomorphism.

The proof of this result uses the idea used in the paper by Dujella ([2, Theorem 4]), which relies on the homomorphism  $\theta$  (see [3, 4.4]).

The obtained result may lead to determining the rank and even proving that a certain set of points are free generators of an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ in the form (1.2), basically by looking at an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (one of its specialized curves which satisfies the condition of the Theorem 3.1).

In Section 4 we apply the result to a certain family of elliptic curves from the paper by Rubin and Silverberg ([5, Theorem 4.1]). For several concrete elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ , we calculate the rank and prove that a given set of points are free generators over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ . This is done by observing the curve's coefficients in  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  and in addition the rank and torsion and free generators of an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (one of its specializations). The key to this is the existence of efficient algorithms for finding free generators of a large class of elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , which is available through John Cremona's program *mwrank* ([1]).

#### 2. The homomorphism $\theta$

Let K be the field of rational numbers  $\mathbb{Q}$  or the field of rational functions  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  in the variable T over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , let R be the ring of integers Z or the ring  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$  of polynomials in the variable T over Z, respectively. Thus, R is a unique factorization domain.

Let us define the maps

$$\theta_i^K : E(K) \to K^{\times}/(K^{\times})^2, \ i = 1, 2, 3$$

by

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_i^K(x,y) &= x - e_i, \text{ if } x \neq e_i, \\ \theta_i^K(e_i,0) &= (e_j - e_i)(e_k - e_i), \text{ where } i \neq j \neq k \neq i, \\ \theta_i^K(O) &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Put  $\theta^K := (\theta_1^K, \theta_2^K, \theta_3^K)$ . Note that  $K^{\times}/(K^{\times})^2$  has a natural structure of a multiplicative group. Then  $(K^{\times}/(K^{\times})^2)^3$  has the corresponding group structure of the direct product.

LEMMA 2.1. The map  $\theta^K : E(K) \to (K^{\times}/(K^{\times})^2)^3$  is a homomorphism of groups with the kernel 2E(K). Thus,  $Im(\theta^K) \cong E(K)/2E(K)$ .

PROOF. The first part of the statement is in [3, Chapter 6, Proposition (4.3)]. The second part follows from [3, Chapter 1, Theorem (4.1)].

We restrict consideration to nonconstant elliptic curves E over K given by

$$E: y^2 = (x - e_1)(x - e_2)(x - e_3), \ e_j \in R.$$

It is easy to see that E(K)/2E(K) has  $2^{\operatorname{rank}(E(K))+2}$  elements.

For each  $P \in E(K)$  there exists exactly one triple

$$\mu^K := (\mu_1^K, \mu_2^K, \mu_3^K) \in (R^{\times})^3$$

where  $\mu_j^K = \mu_j^K(P)$ , j = 1, 2, 3, such that the following three conditions are satisfied

(i)

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1^K(P) &\equiv \mu_1^K \mu_2^K \pmod{(K^{\times})^2}, \\ \theta_2^K(P) &\equiv \mu_1^K \mu_3^K \pmod{(K^{\times})^2}, \\ \theta_3^K(P) &\equiv \mu_2^K \mu_3^K \pmod{(K^{\times})^2}, \end{aligned}$$

- (ii)  $\mu_j^K$  are square-free and pairwise coprime in R, and
- (iii) If  $R = \mathbb{Z}[T]$  then the leading coefficient of  $\mu_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)} \in \mathbb{Z}[T]$  is positive, and if  $R = \mathbb{Z}$  then  $\mu_1^{\mathbb{Q}} \in \mathbb{Z}$  is positive.

REMARK 2.2. Note that since  $e_1, e_2, e_3 \in R$  we have

$$\mu_1^K | e_1 - e_2, \ \mu_2^K | e_1 - e_3, \ \mu_3^K | e_2 - e_3.$$

These relations will be crucial in the proof of Theorem 3.1.

It is easy to see that

l

$$\mu^{K}(P) = \mu^{K}(Q)$$
 if and and only if  $\theta^{K}(P) = \theta^{K}(Q)$ .

Therefore, by Lemma 2.1,

(2.2) 
$$\mu^{K}(P) = \mu^{K}(Q) \text{ if and only if } Q - P \in 2E(K).$$

Especially,

(2.3) 
$$\mu^{K}(P) = (1, 1, 1)$$
 if and only if  $P \in 2E(K)$ .

We will be using  $\theta$  and  $(\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3)$  for  $R = \mathbb{Z}[T]$  and  $K = \mathbb{Q}(T)$ .

#### 3. The injectivity of the specialization homomorphism

The main theorem in this section gives sufficient conditions on the coefficients of elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  in the form (1.2), for a specialization homomorphism  $T \mapsto t_0$  to be injective. Specifically, if the factors in the factorization of  $(e_1(T) - e_2(T)) \cdot (e_1(T) - e_3(T)) \cdot (e_2(T) - e_3(T))$  in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ evaluated at  $T = t_0$  have a certain property concerning its factorizations in  $\mathbb{Z},$  then the injectivity of the specialization homomorphism  $T \mapsto t_0$  can be concluded.

Before the main theorem we mention the following. For a given non-zero rational number  $q = \frac{a}{b}$ ,  $(a, b \in \mathbb{Z})$ , let  $\operatorname{core}(q)$  denote the *integer square-free part* of q, meaning the integer that is the the square-free part of  $a \cdot b$ . For example, the integer square-free part of  $\frac{5}{12}$  is 15. For a non-zero integer m let  $\operatorname{rad}(m)$  (called the *radical* of m) denote the product of all different prime divisors of m.

THEOREM 3.1. Let  $t_0 \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Let E be the nonconstant elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$ , given by the equation

$$E = E(T) : y^{2} = (x - e_{1})(x - e_{2})(x - e_{3}), (e_{1}, e_{2}, e_{3} \in \mathbb{Z}[T]).$$

Factor

ra

 $(e_1 - e_2) \cdot (e_1 - e_3) \cdot (e_2 - e_3) = a \cdot f_1^{a_1}(T) \cdots f_k^{a_k}(T),$ 

where  $a \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $f_i \in \mathbb{Z}[T]$  irreducible (of positive degree) and  $a_i \geq 1$ . Assume that for each i = 1, ..., k the integer square-free part of each of  $f_i(t_0)$  has at least one prime factor that doesn't appear in the integer square-free part of any of the other  $f_j(t_0)$  ( $\forall j \neq i$ ) and doesn't appear in the factorization of the radical of a. This condition includes the assumption that  $f_i(t_0)$  is nonzero (i = 1, ..., k).

With the above notations the condition can be written as: |aoro(f(t))|

$$\frac{|\operatorname{core}(f_i(t_0))|}{\operatorname{d}[\operatorname{gcd}(\operatorname{core}(f_i(t_0)), \operatorname{rad}(a)) \cdot \prod_{j=1, j \neq i}^k \operatorname{gcd}(\operatorname{core}(f_i(t_0)), \operatorname{core}(f_j(t_0)))]} > 1,$$

for all i = 1, ..., k. Then the specialization homomorphism  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \rightarrow E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$  is injective.

PROOF. Since  $(e_1(t_0) - e_2(t_0)) \cdot (e_1(t_0) - e_3(t_0)) \cdot (e_2(t_0) - e_3(t_0)) \neq 0$ , the specialization  $E(t_0)$  of E(T) is an elliptic curve.

Let  $P \in E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \setminus \{O\}$ . Then the first coordinate of P is of the form  $\frac{p(T)}{q(T)^2}$  with  $p(T), q(T) \in \mathbb{Z}[T]$  coprime. Therefore

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} p(T) - e_1(T)q^2(T) = \mu_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\mu_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Z}[T]}, \\ p(T) - e_2(T)q^2(T) = \mu_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\mu_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Z}[T]}, \\ p(T) - e_3(T)q^2(T) = \mu_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\mu_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Z}[T]}, \end{array} \right.$$

where  $\Box_{\mathbb{Z}[T]}$  denotes a square of an element of  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$ . Let

$$\psi: E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$$

be the specialization homomorphism (note that  $\psi$  is everywhere well-defined under the conditions of the theorem). Let  $\bar{\mu}_{j}^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)$ , j = 1, 2, 3 denote the rational numbers obtained from  $\mu_{j}^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)$ , by the specialization  $T \mapsto t_{0}$ .

• We first prove that  $\psi(P) = O$  implies  $P \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ : Let  $P \in E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \setminus \{O\}$ , then  $\psi(P) = O$  implies  $q(t_0) = 0$  (while  $p(t_0) \neq 0$ ). We mention that  $P \neq (e_i(T), 0)$ , (i = 1, 2, 3), so we are in the first case in the definition of  $\theta$  which we will use to prove the statement. Therefore

$$\begin{cases} p(t_0) = \bar{\mu}_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\bar{\mu}_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Q}}, \\ p(t_0) = \bar{\mu}_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\bar{\mu}_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Q}}, \\ p(t_0) = \bar{\mu}_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\bar{\mu}_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Q}}, \end{cases}$$

where  $\Box_{\mathbb{Q}}$  denotes a square of a rational number. We claim that  $\mu_i^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) \in \{-1,1\}, \text{ for each } i. \text{ Assume, for example, that } \mu_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) \notin$  $\{-1, 1\}$ . By multiplying the first two above relations, we get

$$p(t_0)^2 = \bar{\mu}_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\bar{\mu}_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)\Box_{\mathbb{Q}}$$

- ► Assume that at least one of  $\mu_2^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)$ ,  $\mu_3^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)$  has a positive degree. Then from Remark 2.2, the fact that  $\mu_j^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P)$  are degree. Then non internark 2.2, the fact that μ<sub>j</sub> (T) are square-free and mutually coprime, and the condition of the Theorem, we conclude that μ<sub>2</sub><sup>Q(T)</sup>(P)μ<sub>3</sub><sup>Q(T)</sup>(P) is not a square in Q. It is in contradiction with (3.1).
  Assume that both μ<sub>2</sub><sup>Q(T)</sup>(P), μ<sub>3</sub><sup>Q(T)</sup>(P) are constants. Since they are square-free and coprime, and μ<sub>2</sub><sup>Q(T)</sup>(P) ∉ {-1,1} we get a
- contradiction with (3.1).

Since we know that  $\mu_i^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) \in \{-1,1\}$ , for each *i* and using the fact that  $\mu_1^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) > 0$ , we easily conclude that  $\mu_i^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) = 1$  for i = 1, 2, 3. Now we see that  $\theta^{\mathbb{Q}(T)}(P) = (1, 1, 1)$ , hence by (2.3) we have  $P \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ .

Since  $\psi(O) = O$  and  $O \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ , we proved that  $\psi(P) = O$ implies  $P \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ .

• Now we prove that  $\psi(P) \in 2\mathrm{Im}\psi$  if and only if  $P \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  : if  $\psi(P) \in 2 \operatorname{Im} \psi$ , then  $\psi(P) = 2\psi(Q)$  for some  $Q \in E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ , then  $\psi(P-2Q) = O$ , which implies, by the former, that  $P-2Q \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ . So  $P \in 2E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ . The rest is obvious.

We thus conclude that

(3.2) 
$$E(\mathbb{Q}(T))/2E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \cong \mathrm{Im}\psi/2\mathrm{Im}\psi.$$

Since  $\psi$  is injective on the torsion part [6, p. 272–273, proof of Theorem III.11.4], and since a possible form of the torsion part is

$$\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2n\mathbb{Z}, \ 1 \le n \le 4,$$

by (3.2) we conclude

$$2^{\operatorname{rank}(E(\mathbb{Q}(T))+2)} = 2^{\operatorname{rank}(\operatorname{Im}(\psi))+2}$$

hence the rank of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  is the same as the rank of  $\operatorname{Im}(\psi)$ .

Let  $\bar{\psi}: E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q} \to \operatorname{Im} \psi \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}$  be the  $\mathbb{Q}$ -linear map corresponding to  $\psi: E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to \operatorname{Im} \psi$ . Since  $\psi$  is a surjective linear map among vector spaces

(3.1)

of the same dimension, it is injective. By the fact that  $\psi$  is injective on the torsion part, we conclude that  $\psi$  is injective, too.

This result could be applied to determining the rank (and even the free generators) of an elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  in the form (1.2), by basically choosing a good candidate  $t_0 \in \mathbb{Q}$  that of course satisfies the conditions of Theorem 3.1 and looking at an elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  (one of its specialized curves corresponding to  $T = t_0$ ).

The following Corollary is used in the next section.

COROLLARY 3.2. Let  $t_0 \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Let E be the nonconstant elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  in the form (1.2). If the condition from Theorem 3.1 is satisfied, and if

 $|E(\mathbb{Q}(T))_{Tors}| = |E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})_{Tors}|$ 

and there exist  $P_1, \ldots, P_r \in E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  such that  $P_1(t_0), \ldots, P_r(t_0)$  are the free generators of  $E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$ , then the specialization homomorphism

$$E(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$$

is an isomorphism.

Thus  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  and  $E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$  have the same rank r, and  $P_1, \ldots, P_r$  are the free generators of  $E(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ .

PROOF. The specialization is obviously an epimorphism, and by Theorem 3.1 it is an isomorphism.

REMARK 3.3. If  $|E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{Tors}}| = 4$ , then the condition  $|E(\mathbb{Q}(T))_{\text{Tors}}| = |E(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})_{\text{Tors}}|$  is satisfied.

#### 4. Application to a family of Rubin and Silverberg

Now we will give an example of the usage of the main Theorem 3.1 for obtaining new results concerning the paper by Rubin and Silverberg [5, Theorem 4.1]. We will determine the rank and free generators of several elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  using Theorem 3.1 (moreover Corollary 3.2), by observing for each, its coefficients in  $\mathbb{Z}[T]$  and one of its specialized curves over  $\mathbb{Q}$ . The possibility of determining the free generators of a large class of elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is of essential importance for this, for which we use John Cremona's program *mwrank* ([1]).

The program *mwrank* uses 2-descent via 2-isogeny to determine the rank of an elliptic curve E over  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and obtain a set of points which generate  $E(\mathbb{Q})$ modulo  $2E(\mathbb{Q})$ , and finally saturate it to a full basis over  $\mathbb{Z}$  for  $E(\mathbb{Q})$ .

EXAMPLE 4.1. Let  $a \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times}$ , let  $\lambda = -2a^2$ , and let  $g^{(a)}(T)$  be the polynomial of degree 12 in T

$$g^{(a)}(T) = 2N(\lambda, T)(N(\lambda, T) - 2D(\lambda, T)^2)(N(\lambda, T) - 2\lambda D(\lambda, T)^2),$$

where

$$\begin{split} D(\lambda,T) &= \lambda (2\lambda - 1)T^2 + 2 - \lambda, \\ N(\lambda,T) &= \lambda^2 (\lambda + 1)(2\lambda - 1)^2 T^4 - 4\lambda^2 (\lambda - 1)(2\lambda - 1)T^3 \\ &+ 2\lambda (\lambda + 1)(2\lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 2)T^2 \\ &- 4\lambda (\lambda - 1)(\lambda - 2)T + (\lambda - 2)^2 (\lambda + 1). \end{split}$$

In [5, Theorem 4.1] it is proven that the elliptic curve  $C^{(a)}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  with equation

$$g^{(a)}(T)y^2 = x(x-1)(x-\lambda)$$

has rank at least 3, with independent points  $P^{(a)}, Q^{(a)}, R^{(a)} \in C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ given by

$$\begin{split} P^{(a)} &= \left(\frac{N(\lambda,T)}{2D(\lambda,T)^2}, \frac{1}{4D(\lambda,T)^3}\right),\\ Q^{(a)} &= \left(\frac{\lambda^2(D(\lambda,T)^2 - 4\lambda T(T-1)(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T+2-\lambda))}{(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T^2 - 2\lambda(2\lambda-1)T + \lambda - 2)^2}, \\ \frac{a\lambda}{(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T^2 - 2\lambda(2\lambda-1)T + \lambda - 2)^3}\right),\\ R^{(a)} &= \left(\frac{D(\lambda,T)^2 + 4\lambda T(T-1)(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T+2-\lambda)}{\lambda(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T^2 - (2\lambda-4)T + \lambda - 2)^2}, \\ -\frac{a}{\lambda^2(\lambda(2\lambda-1)T^2 - (2\lambda-4)T + \lambda - 2)^3}\right). \end{split}$$

By [7, Section 4, Corollary 1] and [5, Remark 2.12], we know that the rank of  $C^{(a)}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  is at most 5, for each a. Now we will show that for each integer value a, where  $1 \leq a \leq 60$ , the elliptic curve  $C^{(a)}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  has rank exactly equal to 3 and torsion  $\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ , where free generators are the points

$$P^{(a)}, Q^{(a)}, R^{(a)} \in C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T))$$

given above. This strongly suggests that the rank in the family  $C^{(a)}$  is constant and equals to 3, as well as that  $P^{(a)}, Q^{(a)}, R^{(a)}$  are free generators.

The coordinate transformation

$$(x,y) \mapsto \left(g^{(a)}(T) \cdot x, g^{(a)}(T)^2 \cdot y\right)$$

applied to the elliptic curve  $C^{(a)}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  leads to the elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  given by the equation

$$y^{2} = x(x - g^{(a)}(T))(x - \lambda g^{(a)}(T))$$

which we also denote by  $C^{(a)}$ . The corresponding points also remain denoted as the old ones. Then

$$e_1(T) = 0, \ e_2(T) = g^{(a)}(T), \ e_3(T) = \lambda g^{(a)}(T),$$

and four torsion points are O, (0,0),  $(g^{(a)}(T),0)$ ,  $(\lambda g^{(a)}(T),0)$ .

PROPOSITION 4.2. Let a be an integer such that  $1 \le a \le 60$ . The elliptic curve  $C^{(a)}$  over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  has rank 3, more precisely

 $C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^3,$ 

and the points  $P^{(a)}, Q^{(a)}, R^{(a)}$  are free generators of the group  $C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ .

PROOF. Note that  $C^{(a)}$  is a nonconstant elliptic curve over  $\mathbb{Q}(T)$  for each  $a \neq 0$ , although its *j*-invariant is a rational constant. Therefore, we can apply Theorem 3.1 and Corollary 3.2. First we will give a detailed proof for a = 1 For a = 1 and  $t_0 = 4$  we have

• the elliptic curve  $C^{(1)}(4)$  over  $\mathbb{Q}$  is given by the equation

 $y^2 = x^3 + 502511523471360x^2 - 505035662443014384369480499200x,$ 

• the torsion group has four elements, mwrank ([1]) showed that  $C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q})$  has rank 3 and free generators

$$\begin{split} G_1 &= \left(-\frac{1689903343134720000}{1849}, -\frac{863283322778865481285632000}{79507}\right), \\ G_2 &= (790444733644800, 20214846265347853516800), \\ G_3 &= (13076929429218304, -1521697307273039513157632). \end{split}$$

• using the commands elladd and ellsub in Pari ([4]) we obtain

$$P^{(1)}(4) = (-2g^{(1)}(4), 0) - G_2 - G_3,$$
  

$$Q^{(1)}(4) = (0, 0) + G_1 + G_2,$$
  

$$R^{(1)}(4) = (-2g^{(1)}(4), 0) + G_2.$$

Thus we conclude that  $P^{(1)}(4)$ ,  $Q^{(1)}(4)$ ,  $R^{(1)}(4)$  are free generators of the group  $C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q})$  which has rank 3.

• so we conclude that  $\psi: C^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q})$  is a surjection.

• we have

$$e_1(T) = 0, \ e_2(T) = g^{(1)}(T), \ e_3(T) = -2g^{(1)}(T),$$

 $\mathbf{SO}$ 

$$(e_1(T) - e_2(T)) \cdot (e_1(T) - e_3(T)) \cdot (e_2(T) - e_2(T))$$
  
= -9172942848 \cdot (25T^4 + 60T^3 - 16T^2 - 24T + 4)^3  
\cdot (25T^4 + 20T^3 + 8T^2 - 8T + 4)^3 \cdot (25T^4 - 20T^3 + 32T^2 + 8T + 4)^3,

thus

$$rad(a) = 6,$$
  

$$k = 3,$$
  

$$f_1(T) = 25T^4 + 60T^3 - 16T^2 - 24T + 4,$$
  

$$f_2(T) = 25T^4 + 20T^3 + 8T^2 - 8T + 4,$$
  

$$f_3(T) = 25T^4 - 20T^3 + 32T^2 + 8T + 4.$$

If we take  $t_0 = 4$  then we have the "prime" conditions of Theorem 3.1:

$$rad(a) = 2 \cdot 3,$$
  

$$f_1(4) = 2^2 \cdot 2473,$$
  

$$f_2(4) = 2^2 \cdot 5 \cdot 389,$$
  

$$f_3(4) = 2^2 \cdot 13 \cdot 109$$

Thus the prime for  $f_1(4)$  is 2473, the prime for  $f_2(4)$  is 5 or 389, and the prime for  $f_3(4)$  is 13 or 109.

Thus we conclude by Corollary 3.2 applied to a = 1 and  $t_0 = 4$ , that the specialization homomorphism  $\psi : C^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q})$  is an isomorphism, so

$$C^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \cong C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^3,$$

and finally since  $\psi(P^{(1)}), \psi(Q^{(1)}), \psi(R^{(1)})$  are free generators of  $C^{(1)}(4)(\mathbb{Q})$ we conclude that  $P^{(1)}, Q^{(1)}, R^{(1)}$  are free generators of  $C^{(1)}(\mathbb{Q}(T))$  which has rank 3.

The Table 4.1. below, shows for integer values  $a \in \{1, 2, ..., 60\}$ , the corresponding  $t_0$  for which the following conditions of the Corollary 3.2 are satisfied:

- the "prime" condition of Theorem 3.1 is satisfied for  $e_1(T) = 0$ ,  $e_2(T) = g^{(a)}(T)$ ,  $e_3(T) = \lambda g^{(a)}(T)$ ,
- the torsion subgroup of  $C^{(a)}(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$  has four elements,
- the rank of  $C^{(a)}(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$  is 3, and free generators  $G_1, G_2, G_3$  are found using *mwrank* ([1])
- the combination of  $P^{(a)}(t_0), Q^{(a)}(t_0), R^{(a)}(t_0)$  of the torsion point and the generators  $G_1, G_2, G_3$  is checked, which shows that

 $P^{(a)}(t_0), Q^{(a)}(t_0), R^{(a)}(t_0)$ 

are also the generators of  $C^{(a)}(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$ 

By Corollary 3.2 we conclude that for all integer values  $a \in \{1, \ldots, 60\}$  the specialization  $\psi: C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \to C^{(a)}(t_0)(\mathbb{Q})$  is an isomorphism, so

$$C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T)) \cong C^{(a)}(t_0)(\mathbb{Q}) \cong \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z} \oplus \mathbb{Z}^3,$$

and  $P^{(a)}, Q^{(a)}, R^{(a)}$  are free generators of  $C^{(a)}(\mathbb{Q}(T))$ .

I. GUSIĆ AND P. TADIĆ

a	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
$\mathbf{t}_0$	4	$\frac{21}{2}$	-9	$-\frac{3}{20}$	5	6	$\frac{2}{7}$	$-\frac{3}{8}$	-7	$-\frac{5}{2}$
a	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
$\mathbf{t}_0$	-9	25	15	-10	25	$\frac{3}{16}$	-7	$-\frac{9}{2}$	-21	-8
a	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
$\mathbf{t}_0$	$\frac{25}{3}$	-9	-9	-8	-8	-10	-8	-7	4	-8
a	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
$\mathbf{t}_0$	-10	$-\frac{5}{32}$	-10	61	$\frac{7}{5}$	-6	4	$\frac{1}{2}$	4	-3
a	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
$\mathbf{t}_0$	$\frac{2}{41}$	$-\frac{23}{2}$	30	$\frac{6}{11}$	-6	-13	$-\frac{9}{47}$	$-\frac{11}{3}$	3	$\frac{13}{2}$
a	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
$\mathbf{t}_0$	$-\frac{7}{3}$	4	$\frac{55}{7}$	$\frac{11}{2}$	$\frac{47}{2}$	-6	13	$-\frac{15}{2}$	-5	$\frac{25}{3}$

Table 4.1. List of values a and corresponding  $t_0$ 

For obtaining the table we observed  $t_0$  that satisfy Corollary 3.2 such that the numerator is in absolute value  $\leq 80$  and the denominator minimal. We looked at  $t_0$  for which the root number of  $C^{(a)}(t_0)$  is -1 and after that we let *mwrank* try to calculate the rank (and free generators).

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

The authors would like to sincerely thank professor Andrej Dujella. This article would not have been possible without his kind support, help, suggestions and useful comments.

### References

- [1] J. E. Cremona, Algorithms for Modular Elliptic Curves, Cambridge Univ. Press, 1997.
- [2] A. Dujella, A parametric family of elliptic curves, Acta Arith. 94 (2000), 87–101.
- [3] D. Husemöller, Elliptic Curves, Second Edition GTM 111, Springer, New York, 2004.
- [4] Pari/GP, version 2.3.3, Bordeaux, 2008, http://pari.math.u-bordeaux.fr/.
  [5] K. Rubin and A. Silverberg, Rank frequencies for quadratic twists of elliptic curves,
- Experiment. Math. 10 (2001), 559–569.
  [6] J. H. Silverman, Advanced Topics in the Arithmetic of Elliptic Curves, GTM 151, Springer, Berlin, 1994.
- [7] C. L. Stewart and J. Top, On ranks of twists of elliptic curves and power-free values of binary forms, J. Amer. Math. Soc. 8 (1995), 943–973.

I. Gusić Faculty of Chemical Engin. and Techn. University of Zagreb Marulićev trg 19, 10000 Zagreb Croatia *E-mail*: igusic@fkit.hr

P. Tadić Geotechnical faculty University of Zagreb Hallerova aleja 7, 42000 Varaždin Croatia *E-mail*: petra.tadic.zg@gmail.com, ptadic@gfv.hr *Received*: 14.1.2012.

Revised: 17.2.2012.