Elliptic curves with many points

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Thursday, October 20, 2011

007 Kemeny Hall, 4:00 pm
(Tea 3:30 pm, 300 Kemeny Hall)

Abstract

Elliptic curves are sets of solutions of cubic polynomials in two variables and they have a remarkable group law. They are related to an old problem in calculus (computing the arc length of an ellipse, hence the name), but continue to be objects of intense research. I'll explain the basics and then discuss some open questions and recent results on the "size" of the groups in question.

This talk should be accessible to undergraduates.   1317649921