

# Sums of 2 squares.

## Method of descent:

If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$  is prime  
want to write  $p = a^2 + b^2$ .

Step 1: Find  $a^2 + b^2 = np$ .

Step 2: Descent - an algorithm to  
find  $(a')^2 + (b')^2 = n'p$   
 $n' \leq \frac{n}{2}$ .

Repeat until you find  $p = x^2 + y^2$ .

Exercise 1 - (2) - (3): follow method of descent given a starting equation.

To do this:  $a^2 + b^2 = mp$

$$u \equiv a \pmod{m} \quad v \equiv b \pmod{m}$$

$$-\frac{m}{2} < u, v \leq \frac{m}{2}$$

$$(u - iv)(a + bi) = c + di$$

$$N(c + di) = c^2 + d^2 = N(u - iv)N(a + bi) = m^2 rp$$

$$r \leq \frac{m}{2}.$$

$$a' = \frac{c}{m}$$

$$b' = \frac{d}{m}$$

$$N(a' + b'i) = (a')^2 + (b')^2 = r p, \quad a', b' \text{ are both integers}$$

Do Ex 1, parts (2) - (3) now! (2)  $11^2 + 1^2 = 2 \cdot 61$

Example:  $\overset{a}{11}^2 + \overset{b}{1}^2 = \overset{m}{2} \cdot \overset{p}{61}$

So take  $u \equiv 11 \pmod{2}$   $v \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$   
 $-1 < u, v \leq 1$  ( $1 \equiv \frac{m}{2}$ )

$$\Rightarrow u = 1 \quad v = 1$$

$$(1 - i)(11 + i) = 12 - 10i$$

$$\frac{12-10i}{2} = 6-5i$$

$$6^2 + (-5)^2 = 61 \quad \checkmark$$

$$84^2 + 89^2 = 17 \cdot 881$$

$$u \equiv 84 \pmod{17}$$

$$v \equiv 89 \pmod{17}$$

$$-\frac{M}{2} < u, v \leq \frac{M}{2}$$

$$\frac{M}{2} = 8.5$$

$$\Rightarrow u = -1$$

$$v = 4$$

$$(5 \cdot 17 = 85)$$

$$\begin{aligned} (-1 - 4i)(84 + 89i) &= (-84 + 4 \cdot 89) + (-89 - 4 \cdot 84)i \\ &= 272 + (-425)i \end{aligned}$$

$$\underline{17}$$

gives

$$16 - 25i$$

$$16^2 + (-25)^2 = 881 \quad \checkmark$$

Announcement: Next week (12, 14)  
is the last material for the final.

- The final will be cumulative
- On April 26th <sup>review</sup> in class (April 28th)

Before then, I'll post template/info  
like for midterm.

April 19, 21 we'll cover an optional topic  
(elliptic curve cryptography)

Quizzes and assignment ~ Bonus points.

To find  $a^2 + b^2 = mp$ .

Suffices to find  $a$  s.t.  $a^2 \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$

then  $a^2 + 1^2 \equiv 0 \pmod{p}$  ( $a^2 + 1^2 = mp$ ).

So can take  $b=1$ .

Since  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , we know there exists  
a square root of  $-1 \pmod{p}$ ;  
how to find it?

① Guess till you find it.

② If you know primitive root  $g \pmod{p}$ .

Then FACT:  $g^{\frac{p-1}{4}}$  is a square root  
of  $-1 \pmod p$ .

1. (4) — justify this fact.

1. (5) — use this in a specific case  
to find  $a^2 + b^2 = np$ .  
( $a^2 + b^2 \equiv np$ )

---

(5) — (a)  $5^{18} \sim$  compute it mod 73.  
the whole then

i.e., take  $a$  to be the smallest integer  
 $\equiv 5^{19} \pmod{73}$ .

(4) In a Field, to check

$\alpha = -1$ , it suffices to  
check that  $\alpha^2 = 1$  and  $\alpha \neq 1$ .

Apply to  $\alpha = a^2$ .  $a = g^{\frac{p-1}{4}}$ .

To check  $a^2 \neq 1$  need to use  
that  $g$  is a primitive root.

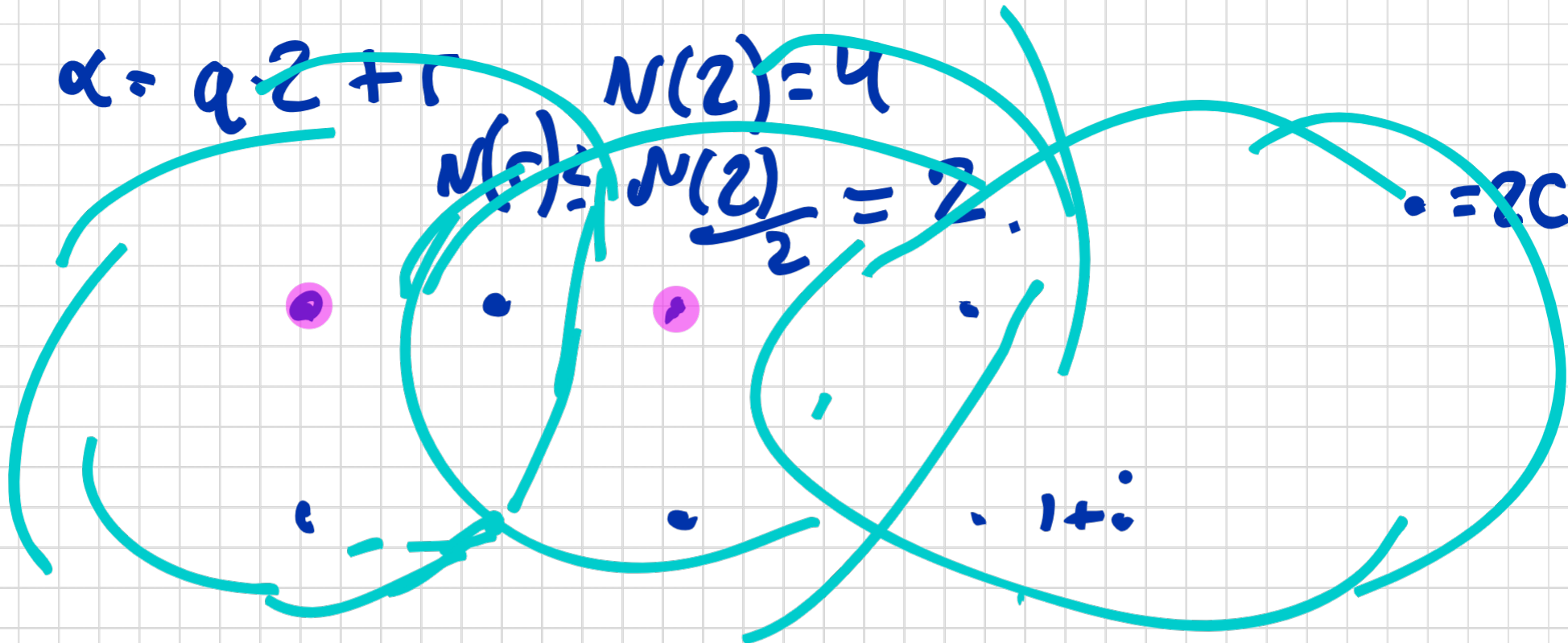


$$\alpha = q \cdot 2 + r$$

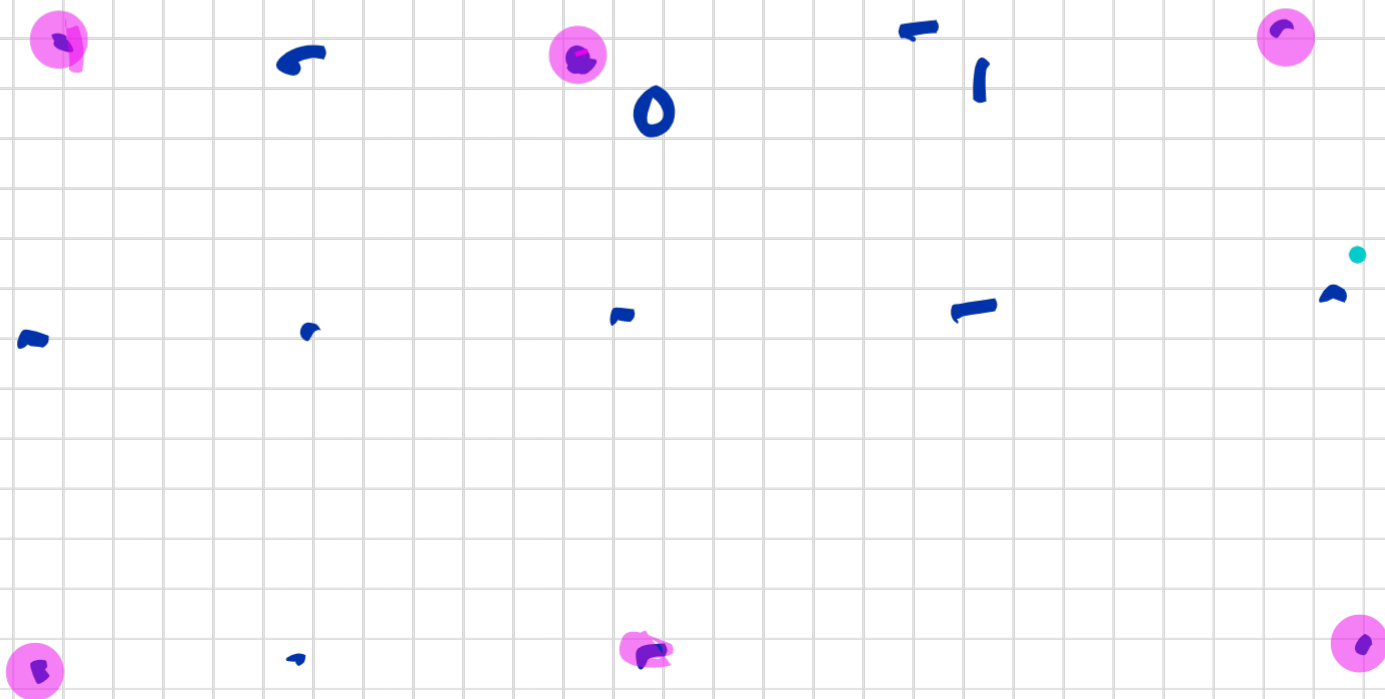
$$N(2) = 4$$

$$N(r) \leq \frac{N(2)}{2} = 2$$

$$= 2C$$



Draw circles  
of radius  $\sqrt{2}$   
at each  
pink point  
you cover  
everything.



This doesn't work in  $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-5}]$ .

---

Suppose  $a^2 + b^2 = mp$

$$p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}.$$

Suppose  ~~$p \nmid m$~~

$$N(a+bi) = mp.$$

arrange  $b$ ,  
such that  $a, b$   
 $\pmod{p}$ .

$$\underline{(a+bi)(a-bi) = mp.}$$

$$p = \underline{(x+yi)(x-yi)}$$

$$x^2 + y^2 = p.$$

So  $x+yi$  (resp.  $x-yi$ ) has to be factor  
of one of the LHS.