- 1. Find a version of Bézout's theorem in  $\mathbf{P}^1 \times \mathbf{P}^1$ . (Hint: to predict the formula, convince yourself first that any curve can be deformed into a union of vertical and horizontal lines, in analogy to the way we predicted Bézout's theorem in  $\mathbf{P}^2$ .) Once you have a conjecture, can you prove it?
- 2. (a) You can find a line through any two points. How many points can you interpolate with a conic?
  - (b) Is the conic unique? What happens to the conic if 3 points lie on a line? What if 4 points lie on a line?
  - (c) Suppose that F is a regular projective quartic curve. Show that  $F^3 \to \operatorname{Pic}^3(F)$  is surjective. (Hints: Show that, for all  $R \in F$ , if  $D = P_1 + P_2 + P_3 + P_4$  is an effective divisor of degree 4 then  $D \equiv E + R$  for some effective divisor of degree 3. Start by considering a conic through D. How many other points of F will it meet?)
  - (d) Is the conic in the last part always unique? What does this tell you about the injectivity of  $\text{Eff}^3(F) \to \text{Pic}^3(F)$ .
  - (e) Deduce that, if we fix a basepoint  $P_0$  of F, every divisor in  $\operatorname{Pic}^0(F)$  can be represented (not necessarily uniquely) as  $D 3P_0$  where D is an effective divisor of degree 3. Devise a procedure to compute  $(D-3P_0)+(E-3P_0)$  when D and E are effective divisors of degree 3 on F.
- 3. Suppose that F is a regular algebraic plane curve. Show that every valuation of K(F) is  $\mu_P$  for some point P.
- 4. One approach to showing that elliptic curves can't be parameterized algebraically:
  - (a) Note that if F is an elliptic curve and  $\mathcal{O}_{F,p} \simeq K[t]_{(t)}$  then  $K(F) \simeq K(t)$ .
  - (b) Show that every automorphism of K(t) is a Möbius transformation.
  - (c) Show that a Möbius transformation fixes at most 2 valuations of K(t).
  - (d) Show that, for F in Weierstraßform  $y^2z = x^3 + axz^2 + bz^3$ , the map  $(x, y) \mapsto (x, -y)$  fixes 4 points of F.
- 5. Another approach to showing that elliptic curves can't be parameterized:
  - (a) Show that Pic(F) can be computed from K(F) (without knowledge of F). (Hint: points are the same as valuations.)
  - (b) Conclude that the fields of rational functions on curves with distinct Picard groups cannot be isomorphic.
- 6. And another (over  $\mathbf{C}$ ): use Riemann-Hurwitz to show that there is not even a non-constant map from a projective genus 0 curve to a genus 1 curve. (Can you extend this to show that there is not any homomorphism

of K-algebras from K(F) to K(t) when F is a plane curve of genus 1?) (These arguments acutally work over other fields as well, once we know how to prove Riemann–Hurwitz over them.)