

Elliptic curve Cryptography

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Elliptic Curve

Curve over a field defined by

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

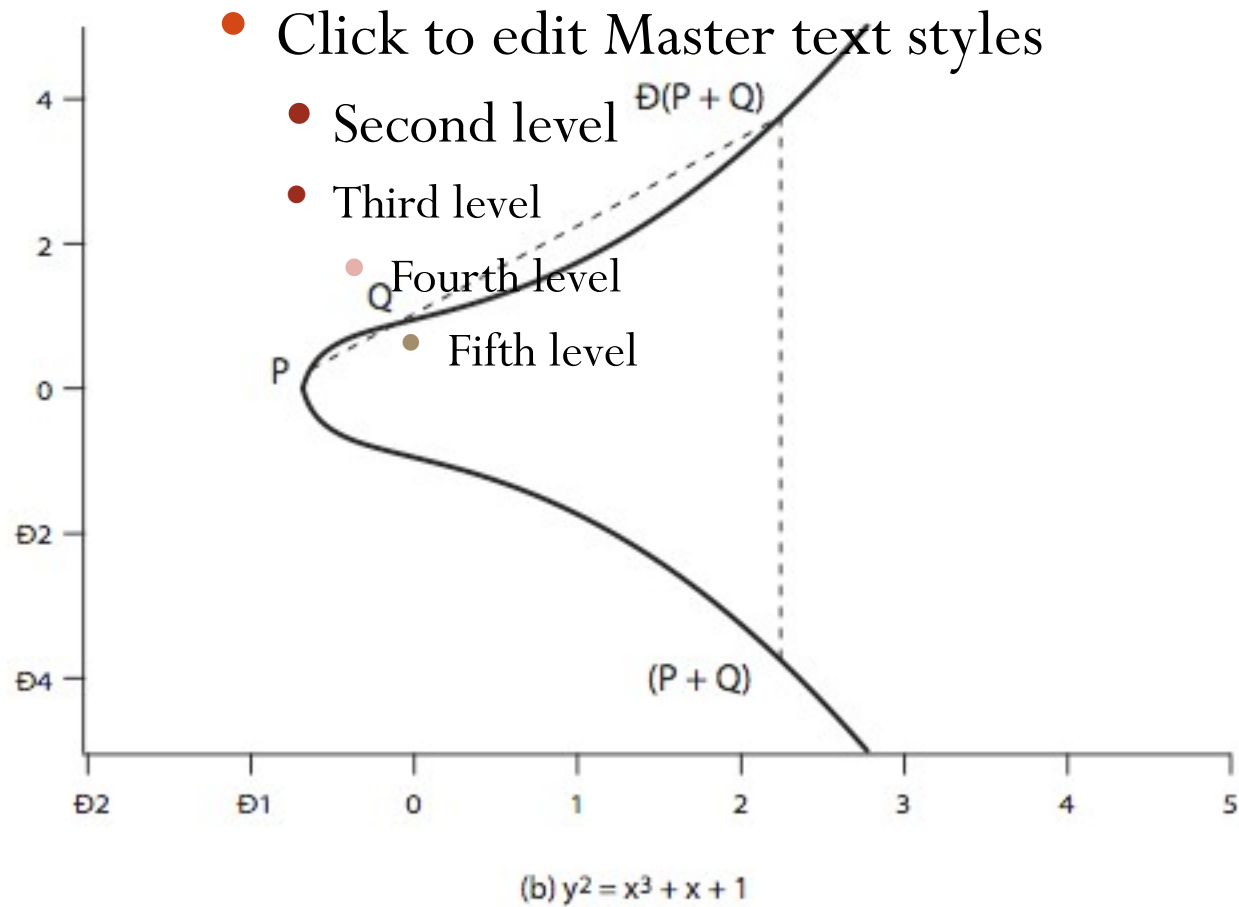
Elliptic Curves in Cryptography

Curve over a finite field (integer mod p) defined by

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$$

$$4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$$

Example



Operation for elliptic curve

Geometrically $Q+R$ is reflection of intersection of Q and R

Discrete Logarithm Problem on EC

- Given an Integer k and a point P , on the computing kP is easy .
- Can be done using repeated addition, takes only $O(\log k)$.

Discrete Logarithm Problem on EC

- Given an Integer k and a point P , on the computing kP is easy .
- But given kP and P , computing P is Hard.
- In general only exponential time algorithms are known .

How is it used in Cryptography

Public key crypto systems

Alice and Bob has a pair of keys.

When Alice wants to send a message

Encryption (message, public key of Bob)

Decryption (message, private key of Bob)

How is it used in Cryptography

Users select an elliptic curve and a point G of large order, say n .

Alice chooses a large integer A ($< n$) which is her secret key and public key is AG .

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To send a message, M to Alice

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Alice Computes $M + KAG - A(KG) = M$

ECC Security

- Sub-exponential algorithms are known for factorizing Integers and solving discrete logarithmic problems over finite fields.
- In general, only exponential algorithms are known for ECDLP

ECC Security

- In general, only exponential algorithms are known for ECDLP
- Compared to RSA, can use much smaller keys.
- hence for similar security ECC offers significant computational

Comparable Key Sizes for Equivalent Security

Symmetric scheme (key size in bits)	ECC-based scheme (size of n in bits)	RSA/DSA (modulus size in bits)
56	112	512
80	160	1024
112	224	2048
128	256	3072
192	384	7680
256	512	15360