

# Cryptographic hash functions from Expander graphs

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- When hash function is constructed from one of Pizer's Ramanujan graphs, then collision resistant follows from hardness of computing isogenies between supersingular elliptic curves.
- Estimating the *cost per bit* to compute these hash functions.

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From a practical viewpoint, these graphs resolve an extremal problem in *communication network theory*.

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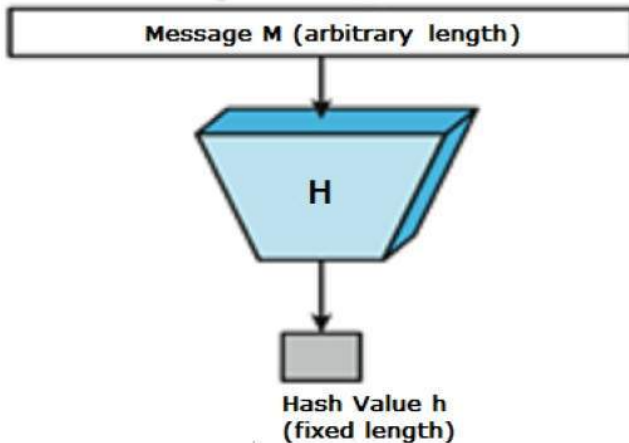
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## Proposal

So it was proposed to set  $p$  to be a 256-bit prime, inorder to obtain 128bit of security from the resulting hash function.

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- We are concerned with *Unkeyed hash functions* which are collision resistant. *Unkeyed hash functions* do not require a secret key to compute the output.
- **Collision resistance:** A hash function  $H$  is collision resistant if it is hard to find two inputs that hash to the same output; that is, two inputs  $x$  and  $y$  such that  $H(x) = H(y)$ , and  $x \neq y$ .

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- Graphs are usually sparse due to application specific constraints. Eg. Road Networks must be sparse because of road junctions.

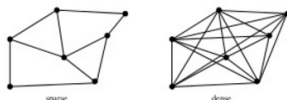


Figure: Sparse vs Dense graph

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- A graph is a good expander if it has low degree and high expansion parameter.

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## Expander Graphs

So, what is not a good expander ?

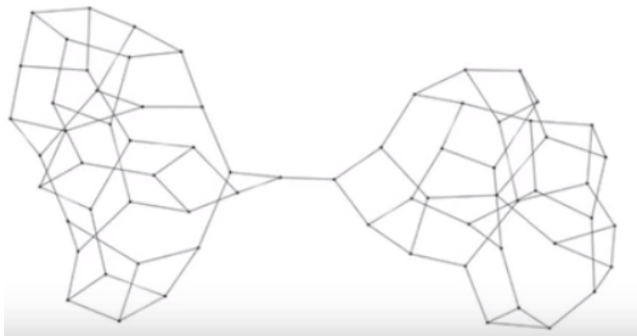
# Preliminaries

## Expander Graphs

So, what is not a good expander ?

The two graphs below, when taken separately are good expanders, but taken when together has a small ratio of expansion and hence a poor expander.

Figure: A graph  $X$  with poor expansion.





# Preliminaries

## Expander graphs

### Definition

Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with vertex set  $V$  and edge set  $E$ . In undirected graphs, a graph is  $k$  regular if the vertex has  $k$  edges coming out of it.

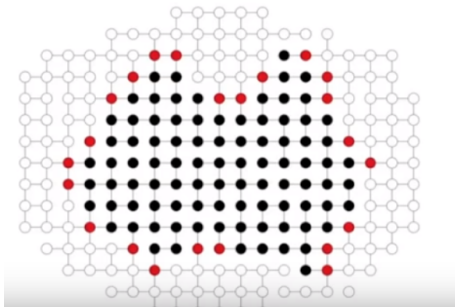
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An expander graph with  $N$  vertices has *expansion constant*  $c > 0$  if for any subset  $U \subset V$  of size  $|U| \leq \frac{N}{2}$ , the boundary  $\tau(U)$  of  $U$  has a size  $|\tau(U)| \geq c|U|$ .



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- To any graph, we may associate the *adjacency matrix*  $A$  which is an  $n \times n$  matrix (where  $n = |G|$ ) with rows and columns indexed by the elements of the vertex set.

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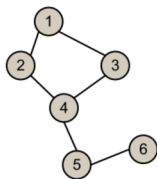
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- The  $(x, y)$ -th entry is the number of edges connecting  $x$  and  $y$ .

# Preliminaries

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Example of Adjacency matrix.



Undirected Graph

	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	0	1	1	0	0	0
2	1	0	0	1	0	0
3	1	0	0	1	0	0
4	0	1	1	0	1	0
5	0	0	0	1	0	1
6	0	0	0	0	1	0

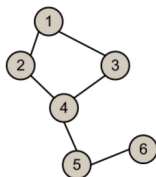
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Adjacency Matrix

Since our graphs are undirected, the matrix  $A$  is symmetric. Consequently, all of its eigenvalues are real.

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- So we have for a connected graph,  $G$ , the largest eigenvalue is  $k$ . We order the eigenvalues as  $k > \mu_1 \geq \mu_2 > \dots \geq \mu_{N-1}$ . Then the expansion constant  $c$  can be expressed in terms of the eigenvalues as:

$$c \geq \frac{2(k - \mu_1)}{3k - 2\mu_1}$$

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- Therefore smaller the eigenvalue  $\mu_1$ , better the expansion constant.

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With this we can now state the theorem of *Alon-Boppana*, leading to the definition of *Ramanujan graph*.

For an infinite family  $X_m$  of connected,  $k$ -regular graph, with the number of vertices tending to infinity, satisfies the inequality,

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## Ramanujan graph

A *Ramanujan multigraph* is a  $k$ -regular graph satisfying the inequality:

$$\mu_1 \leq 2\sqrt{k-1}$$

# Construction of Hash Functions

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## Working

- Execute a walk on a  $k$ -regular expander graph by breaking the input to the hash function into chunks of size  $e$ , so that  $2^e = k - 1$ .



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- At each step in the walk, the choice of the edge to follow is determined by the next  $e$  bits of the input.
- Since backtracking is not allowed, only  $k - 1$  choices for the next edge are allowed at each step.

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The output of a random walk on an expander graph with  $N$  vertices tends to the uniform distribution after  $O(\log(N))$  steps.

# Pizer's Ramanujan graphs

We define the graph  $G(p, l)$  with vertex set  $V$ , a set of supersingular elliptic curves over the finite field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ . Here  $p$  and  $l$  are two distinct prime numbers.

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## Elliptic curve

An *elliptic curve* is the set of solutions to an equation of the form  $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  where  $a$  and  $b$  are rational numbers s.t  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$ .

# Pizer's Ramanujan graphs

An elliptic curve can take the below forms.

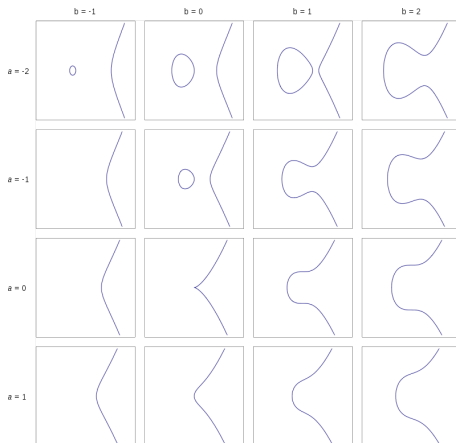


Figure: Elliptic Curve

# Pizer's Ramanujan graphs

## Supersingular Elliptic curves

An elliptic curve over a finite field of characteristic  $p$  is *supersingular* if it has no  $p$ -torsion over any extension field.

Elliptic curves which are not supersingular are called *ordinary*.



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- Thus the output of the hash will be  $\log(p)$  bits. Typically  $p$  is of cryptographic size  $\approx 2^{256}$ .

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- The output is the  $j$  invariant of the curve corresponding to the last vertex reached.



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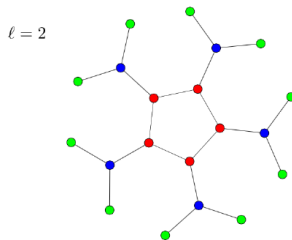
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- Finding a collision in this hash function is equivalent to finding two isogenies of the same  $l$ -power degree between a pair of supersingular elliptic curves.
- If the graph  $G(p, l)$  does not have small cycles then this problem is very hard to compute. Which is why we had introduced restriction on congruence class of prime  $p$ .  $[p \equiv 1 \pmod{12}]$
- Distinct inputs result in distinct paths in the graph and distinct paths lead to distinct isogenies.



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- Also, hash functions from LPS graphs where more efficient to compute than from Pizer's graph.
- This Hash function for primes of varying size where implemented.

# References I



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