

# Mathematics of Isogeny-based Cryptography

Luca De Feo

IBM Research, Zürich

September 16, 2019

Isogeny-based Cryptography Workshop  
Birmingham

Slides online at <https://defeo.lu/docet>

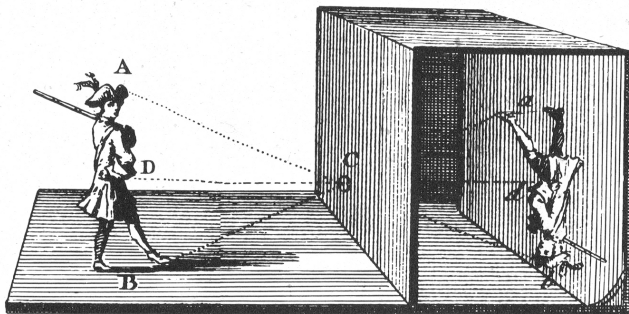
# Projective space

## Definition (Projective space)

Let  $\bar{k}$  an algebraically closed field, the **projective space**  $\mathbb{P}^n(\bar{k})$  is the set of non-null  $(n + 1)$ -tuples  $(x_0, \dots, x_n) \in \bar{k}^n$  modulo the equivalence relation

$$(x_0, \dots, x_n) \sim (\lambda x_0, \dots, \lambda x_n) \quad \text{with } \lambda \in \bar{k} \setminus \{0\}.$$

A class is denoted by  $(x_0 : \dots : x_n)$ .



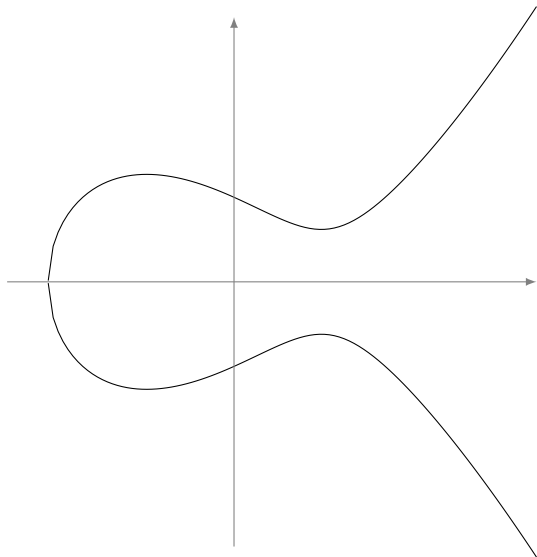
# Weierstrass equations

Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic  $\neq 2, 3$ .

An *elliptic curve defined over  $k$*  is the locus in  $\mathbb{P}^2(\bar{k})$  of an equation

$$Y^2Z = X^3 + aXZ^2 + bZ^3,$$

where  $a, b \in k$  and  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$ .



# Weierstrass equations

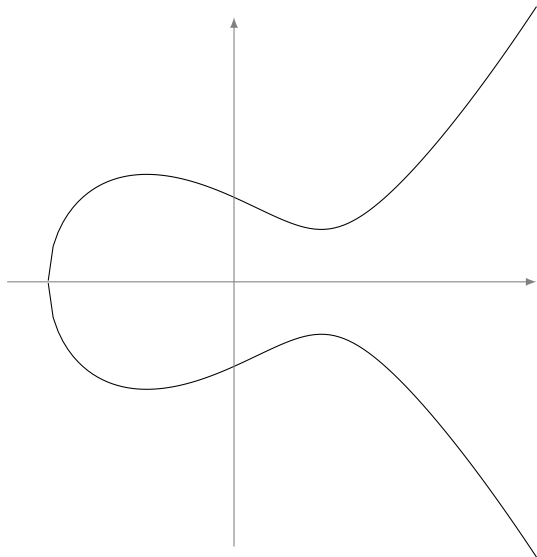
Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic  $\neq 2, 3$ .

An **elliptic curve defined over  $k$**  is the locus in  $\mathbb{P}^2(\bar{k})$  of an equation

$$Y^2Z = X^3 + aXZ^2 + bZ^3,$$

where  $a, b \in k$  and  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$ .

- $\mathcal{O} = (0 : 1 : 0)$  is the **point at infinity**;



# Weierstrass equations

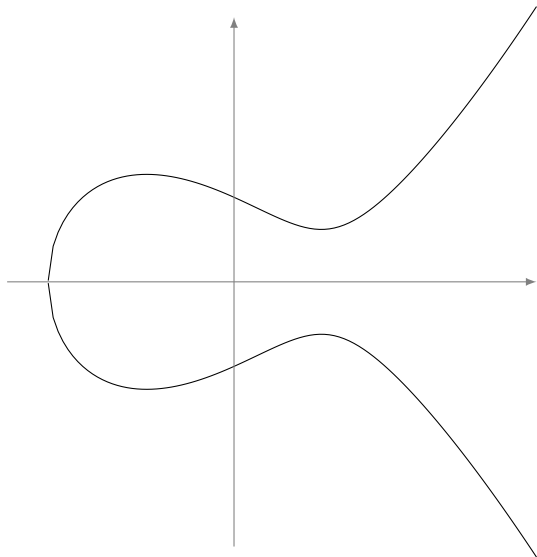
Let  $k$  be a field of characteristic  $\neq 2, 3$ .

An **elliptic curve defined over  $k$**  is the locus in  $\mathbb{P}^2(\bar{k})$  of an equation

$$Y^2Z = X^3 + aXZ^2 + bZ^3,$$

where  $a, b \in k$  and  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$ .

- $\mathcal{O} = (0 : 1 : 0)$  is the **point at infinity**;
- $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  is the **affine equation**.

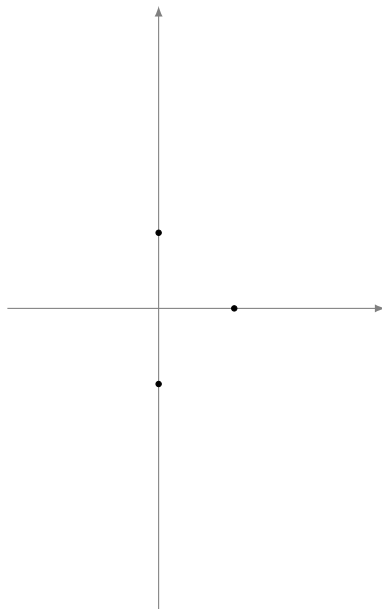


# Attention: arithmetic geometry!

$$E : y^2 = x^3 - 2x + 1$$

Rational points:

- $E(\mathbb{Q}) = \{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1), \mathcal{O}\},$

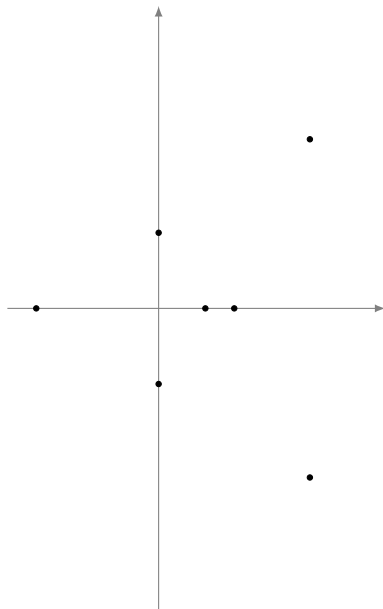


# Attention: arithmetic geometry!

$$E : y^2 = x^3 - 2x + 1$$

Rational points:

- $E(\mathbb{Q}) = \{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1), \mathcal{O}\},$
- $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})) = 8,$

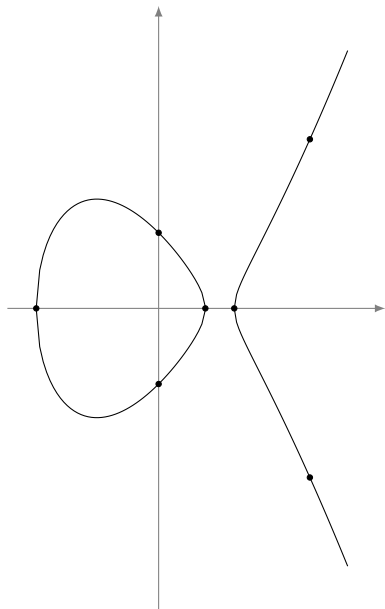


# Attention: arithmetic geometry!

$$E : y^2 = x^3 - 2x + 1$$

Rational points:

- $E(\mathbb{Q}) = \{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1), \mathcal{O}\},$
- $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})) = 8,$
- ...
- $\#E(\mathbb{R}) = \infty.$



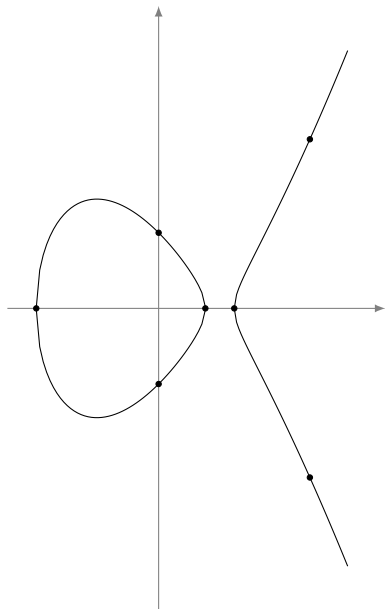


# Attention: arithmetic geometry!

$$E : y^2 = x^3 - 2x + 1$$

Rational points:

- $E(\mathbb{Q}) = \{(1, 0), (0, 1), (0, -1), \mathcal{O}\},$
- $\#E(\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})) = 8,$
- ...
- $\#E(\mathbb{R}) = \infty.$
- $\#E(\mathbb{C}) = \infty.$

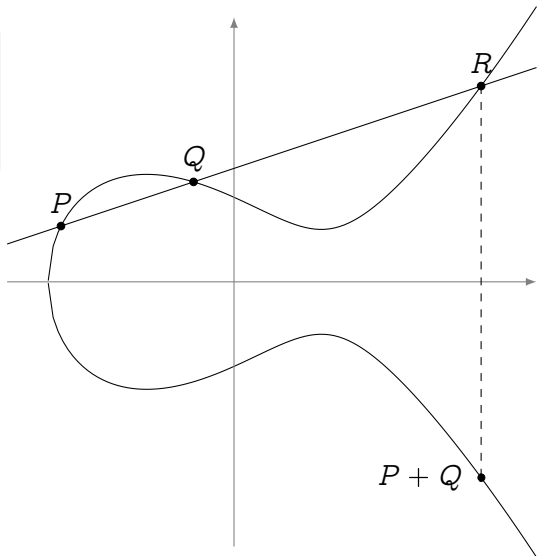


# The group law

## Bezout's theorem

Every line cuts  $E$  in exactly three points (counted with multiplicity).

Define a **group law** such that any three colinear points add up to zero.



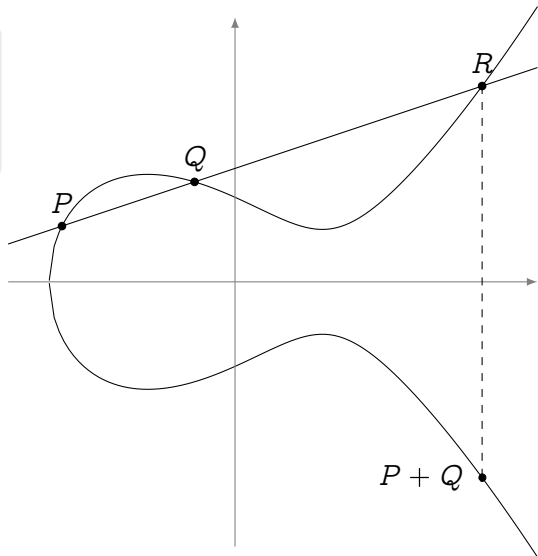
# The group law

## Bezout's theorem

Every line cuts  $E$  in exactly three points (counted with multiplicity).

Define a **group law** such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

- The law is **algebraic** (it has *formulas*);



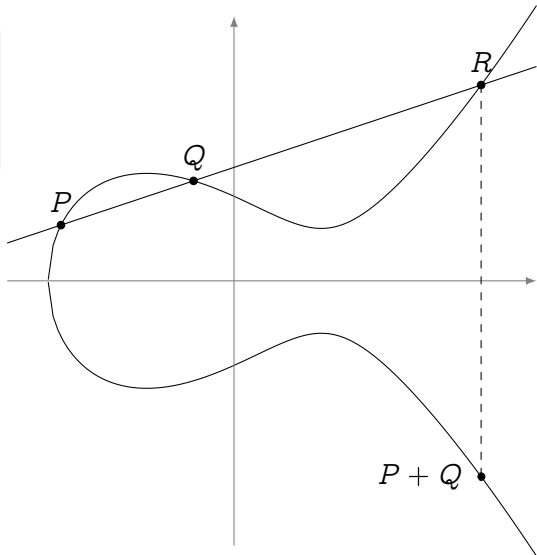
# The group law

## Bezout's theorem

Every line cuts  $E$  in exactly three points (counted with multiplicity).

Define a **group law** such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

- The law is **algebraic** (it has *formulas*);
- The law is **commutative**;
- $\mathcal{O}$  is the **group identity**;
- **Opposite points** have the same  $x$ -value.



# What are elliptic curves?

## For mathematicians

- The smooth projective curves of genus 1 (with a distinguished point);
- The simplest abelian varieties (dimension 1);
- Finitely generated abelian groups of mysterious free rank (aka BSD conjecture);
- What you use to make examples.

# What are elliptic curves?

## For mathematicians

- The smooth projective curves of genus 1 (with a distinguished point);
- The simplest abelian varieties (dimension 1);
- Finitely generated abelian groups of mysterious free rank (aka BSD conjecture);
- What you use to make examples.

## For cryptographers

- Finite abelian groups (often cyclic);
- Easy to compute the order;
- “2-dimensional” generalizations of  $\mu_k$  (the roots of unity of  $k$ )...
- ...with bilinear maps (aka pairings)!

# Maps: isomorphisms

## Isomorphisms

The only **invertible algebraic maps** between elliptic curves are of the form

$$(x, y) \mapsto (u^2x, u^3y)$$

for some  $u \in \bar{k}$ .

They are **group isomorphisms**.

## $j$ -Invariant

Let  $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$ , its  **$j$ -invariant** is

$$j(E) = 1728 \frac{4a^3}{4a^3 + 27b^2}.$$

Two elliptic curves  $E, E'$  are **isomorphic** if and only if  $j(E) = j(E')$ .

# Group structure

## Torsion structure

Let  $E$  be defined over an algebraically closed field  $\bar{k}$  of characteristic  $p$ .

$$E[m] \simeq \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \quad \text{if } p \nmid m,$$

$$E[p^e] \simeq \begin{cases} \mathbb{Z}/p^e\mathbb{Z} & \text{ordinary case,} \\ \{\mathcal{O}\} & \text{supersingular case.} \end{cases}$$

## Finite fields (Hasse's theorem)

Let  $E$  be defined over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , then

$$|\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) - q - 1| \leq 2\sqrt{q}.$$

In particular, there exist integers  $n_1$  and  $n_2 \mid \gcd(n_1, q - 1)$  such that

$$E(\mathbb{F}_q) \simeq \mathbb{Z}/n_1\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/n_2\mathbb{Z}.$$



# Maps: what's scalar multiplication?

$$[n] : P \mapsto \underbrace{P + P + \dots + P}_{n \text{ times}}$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[n] \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $n^2$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$[n] : P \mapsto \underbrace{P + P + \dots + P}_{n \text{ times}}$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[n] \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $n^2$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$\phi : P \mapsto \phi(P)$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[n] \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $n^2$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$\phi : P \mapsto \phi(P)$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E'$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[n] \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $n^2$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$\phi : P \mapsto \phi(P)$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E'$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[n] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z})^2$  / any finite subgroup  $H \subset E$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $n^2$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$\phi : P \mapsto \phi(P)$$

- A map  $E \rightarrow E'$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[m] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^2$  / any finite subgroup  $H \subset E$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $m^2 \neq H$ .

# Maps: what's ~~scalar multiplication~~ an isogeny?

$$\phi : P \mapsto \phi(P)$$

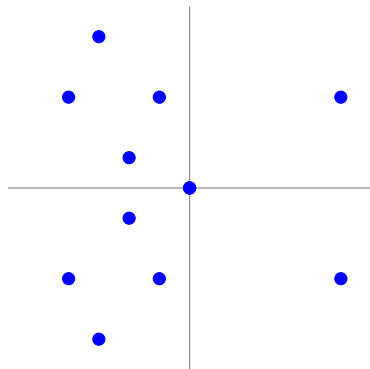
- A map  $E \rightarrow E'$ ,
- a group morphism,
- with finite kernel  
(the torsion group  $E[m] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z})^2$  any finite subgroup  $H \subset E$ ),
- surjective (in the algebraic closure),
- given by rational maps of degree  $m^2 \neq H$ .

(Separable) isogenies  $\Leftrightarrow$  finite subgroups:

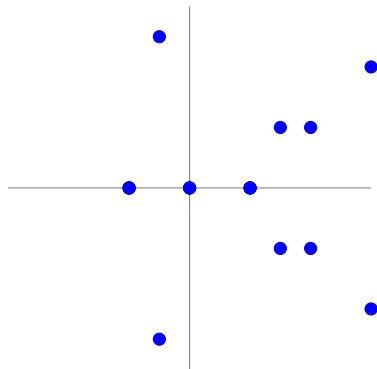
$$0 \rightarrow H \rightarrow E \xrightarrow{\phi} E' \rightarrow 0$$

# Isogenies: an example over $\mathbb{F}_{11}$

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + x$$



$$E' : y^2 = x^3 - 4x$$



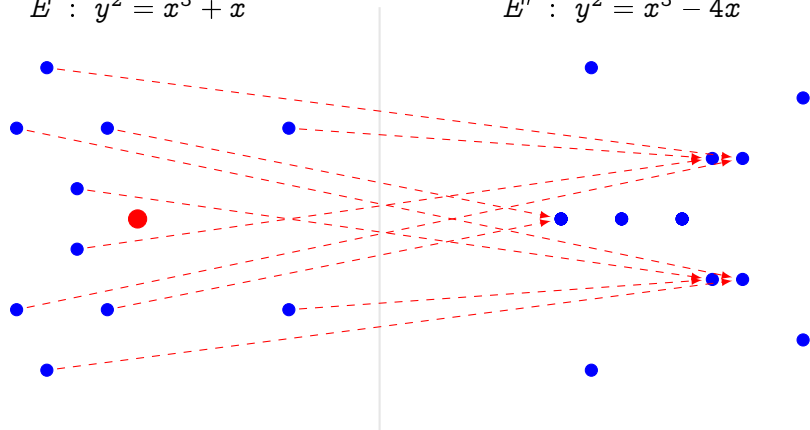
$$\phi(x, y) = \left( \frac{x^2 + 1}{x}, y \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2} \right)$$



# Isogenies: an example over $\mathbb{F}_{11}$

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + x$$

$$E' : y^2 = x^3 - 4x$$



$$\phi(x, y) = \left( \frac{x^2 + 1}{x}, y \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2} \right)$$

- Kernel generator in red.
- This is a degree 2 map.
- Analogous to  $x \mapsto x^2$  in  $\mathbb{F}_q^*$ .

# Maps: isogenies

## Theorem

Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  be a map between elliptic curves. These conditions are equivalent:

- $\phi$  is a *surjective group morphism*,
- $\phi$  is a *group morphism with finite kernel*,
- $\phi$  is a non-constant *algebraic map* of projective varieties sending the point at infinity of  $E$  onto the point at infinity of  $E'$ .

If they hold  $\phi$  is called an *isogeny*.

Two curves are called *isogenous* if there exists an isogeny between them.

## Example: Multiplication-by- $m$

On any curve, an isogeny from  $E$  to itself (i.e., an *endomorphism*):

$$\begin{aligned}[m] &: E \rightarrow E, \\ P &\mapsto [m]P.\end{aligned}$$

# Isogeny lexicon

## Degree

- $\approx$  degree of the rational fractions defining the isogeny;
- Rough measure of the information needed to encode it.

## Separable, inseparable, cyclic

An isogeny  $\phi$  is **separable** iff  $\deg \phi = \ker \phi$ .

- Given  $H \subset E$  finite, write  $\phi : E \rightarrow E/H$  for the **unique** separable isogeny s.t.  $\ker \phi = H$ .
- $\phi$  **inseparable**  $\Rightarrow p$  divides  $\deg \phi$ .
- **Cyclic isogeny**  $\equiv$  separable isogeny with cyclic kernel.
  - ▶ **Non-example:** the multiplication map  $[m] : E \rightarrow E$ .

## Rationality

Given  $E$  **defined over**  $k$ , an isogeny  $\phi$  is rational if  $\ker \phi$  is **Galois invariant**.

$\Rightarrow \phi$  is represented by rational fractions with coefficients in  $k$ .

# The dual isogeny

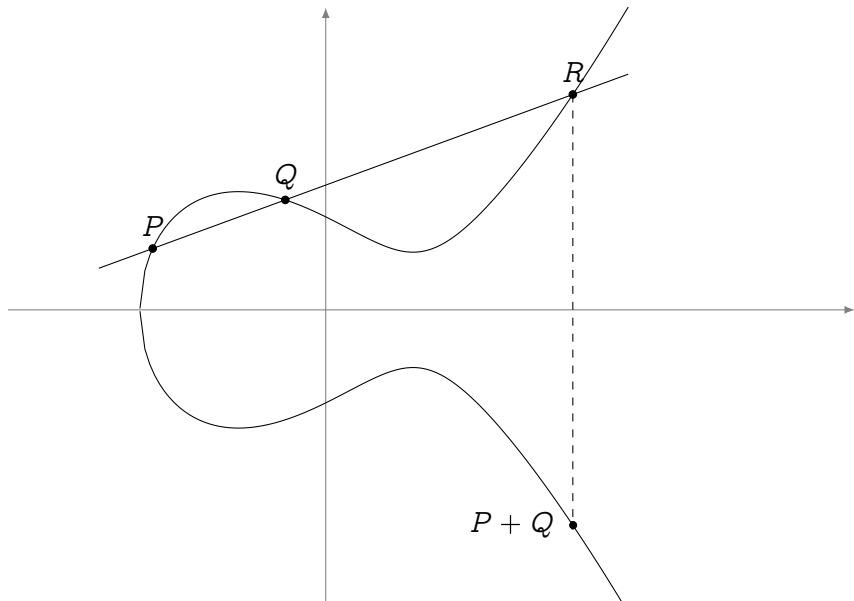
Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  be an isogeny of degree  $m$ . There is a unique isogeny  $\hat{\phi} : E' \rightarrow E$  such that

$$\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m]_E, \quad \phi \circ \hat{\phi} = [m]_{E'}.$$

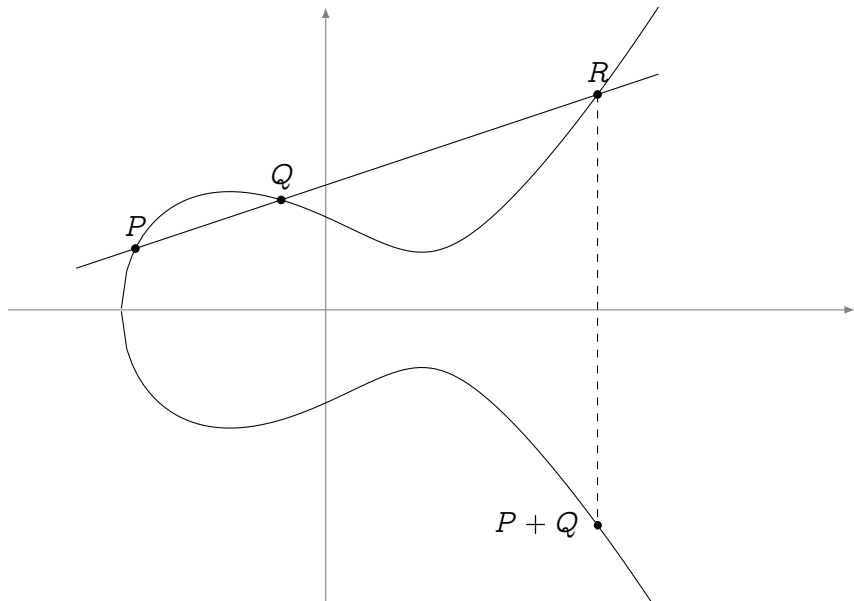
$\hat{\phi}$  is called the **dual isogeny of  $\phi$** ; it has the following properties:

- 1  $\hat{\phi}$  is defined over  $k$  if and only if  $\phi$  is;
- 2  $\widehat{\psi \circ \phi} = \hat{\phi} \circ \hat{\psi}$  for any isogeny  $\psi : E' \rightarrow E''$ ;
- 3  $\widehat{\psi + \phi} = \hat{\psi} + \hat{\phi}$  for any isogeny  $\psi : E \rightarrow E'$ ;
- 4  $\deg \phi = \deg \hat{\phi}$ ;
- 5  $\hat{\hat{\phi}} = \phi$ .

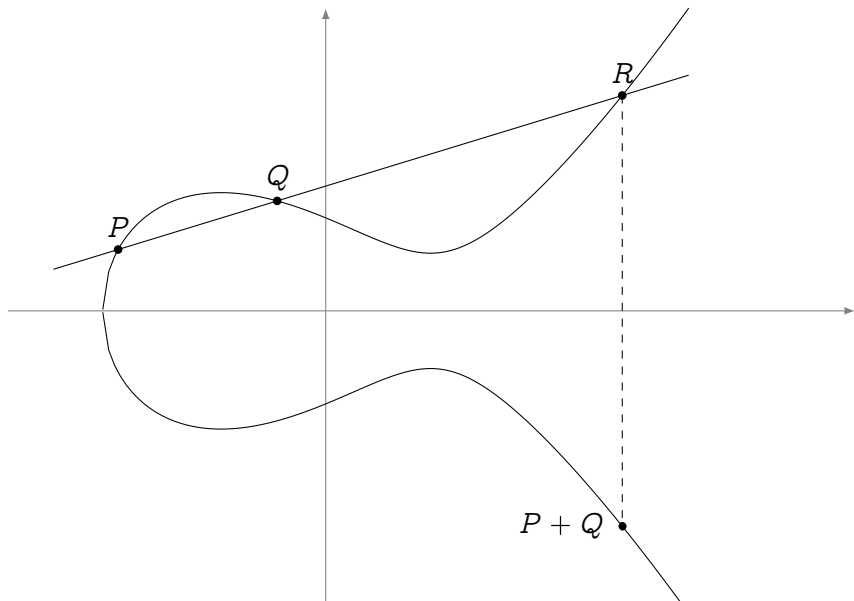
# Up to isomorphism



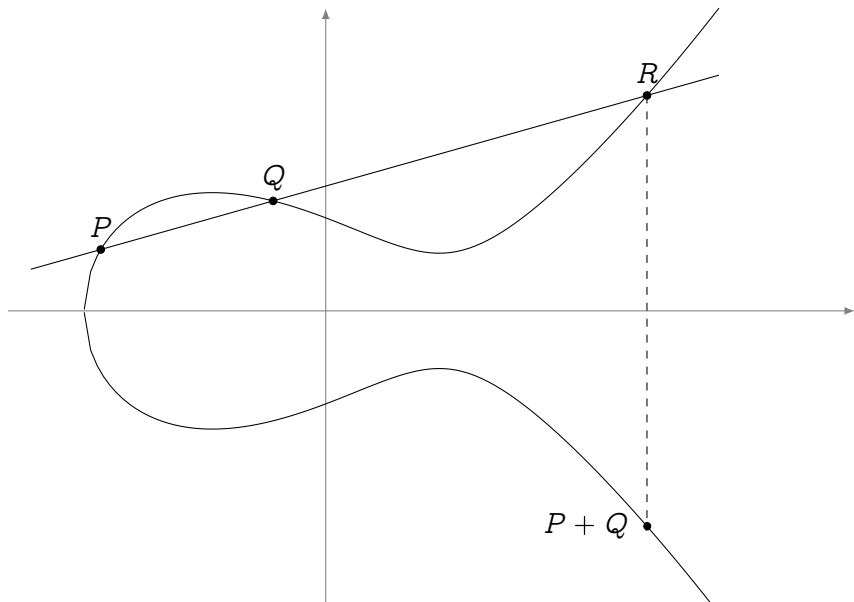
# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism

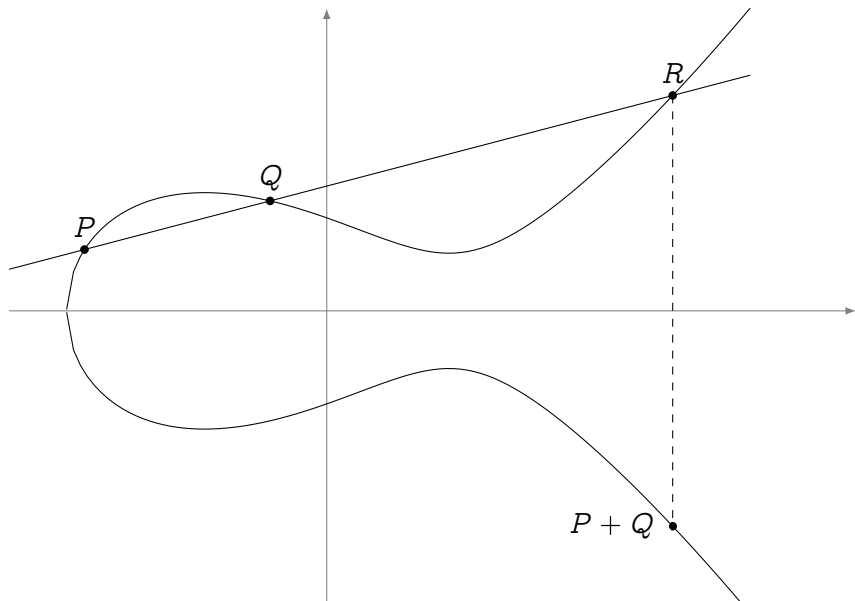


# Up to isomorphism

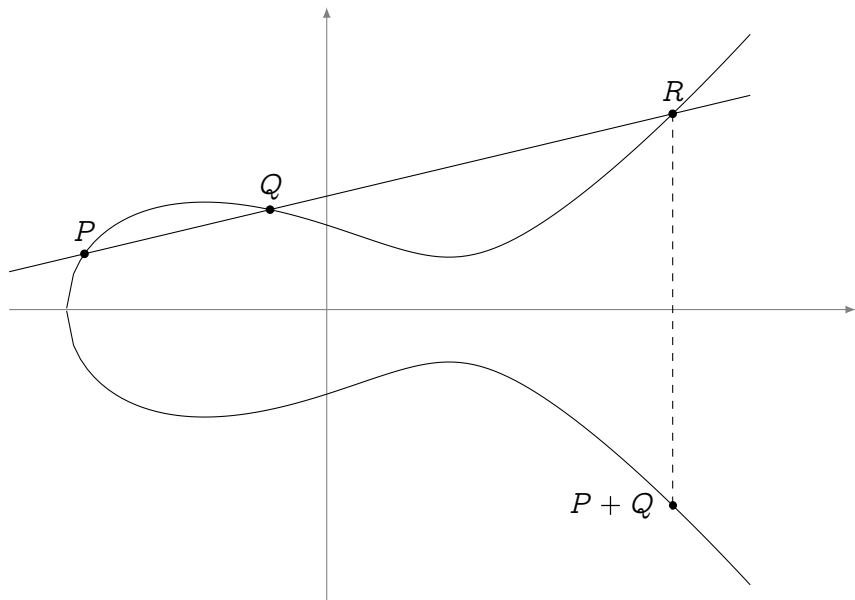




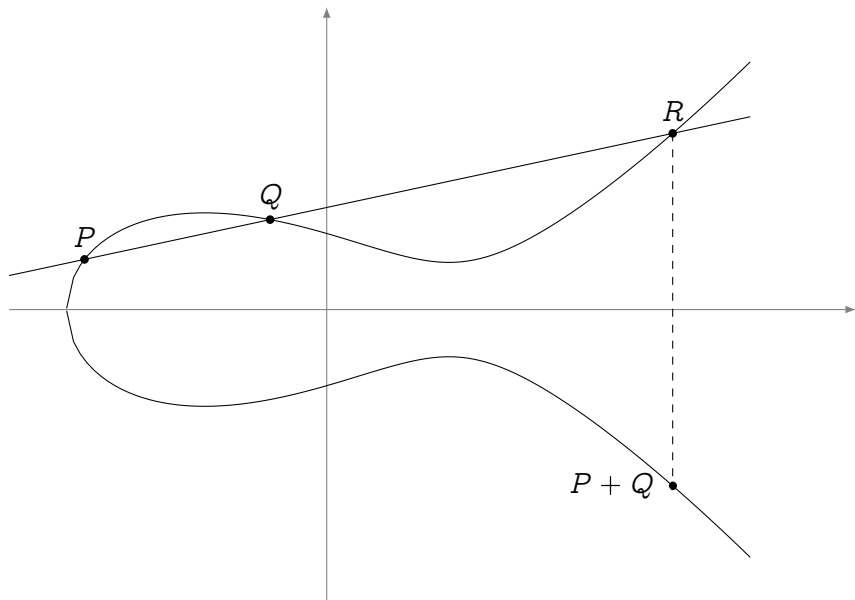
# Up to isomorphism



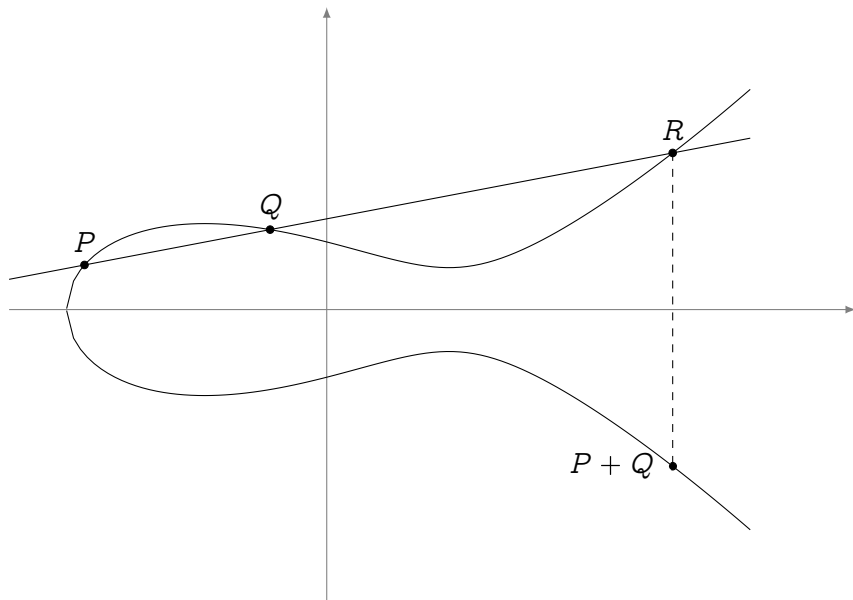
# Up to isomorphism



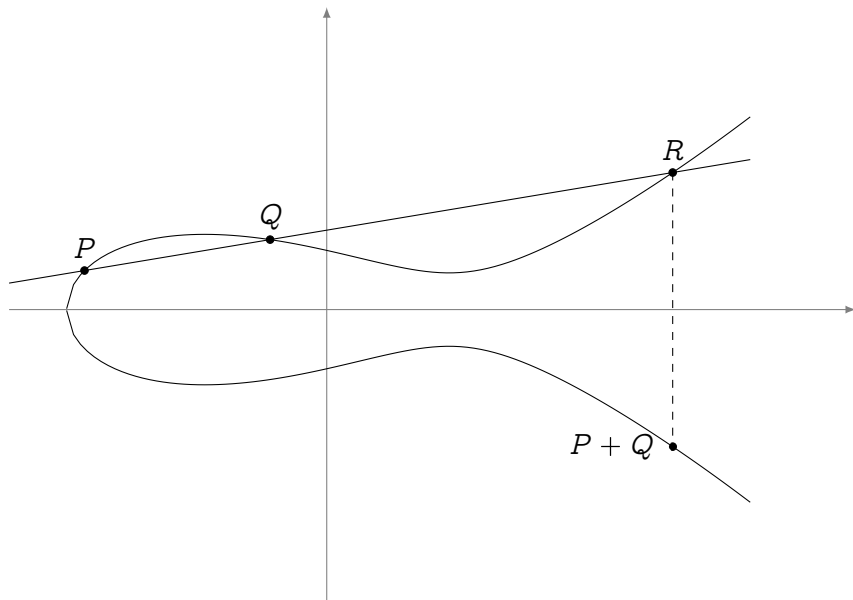
# Up to isomorphism



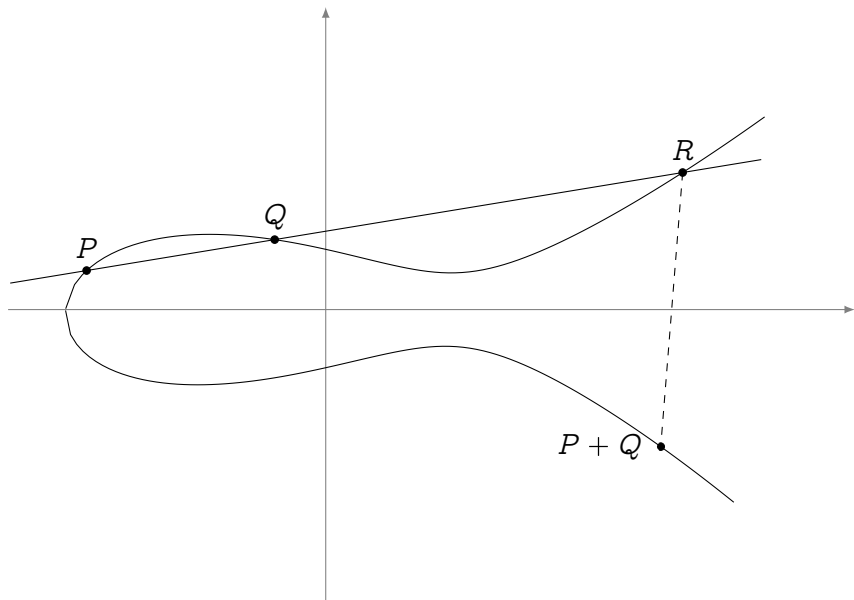
# Up to isomorphism



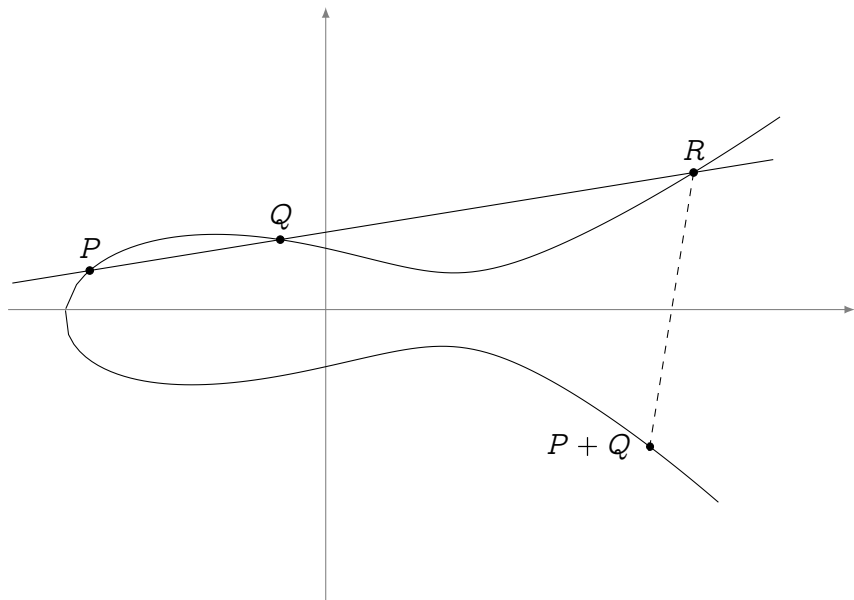
# Up to isomorphism



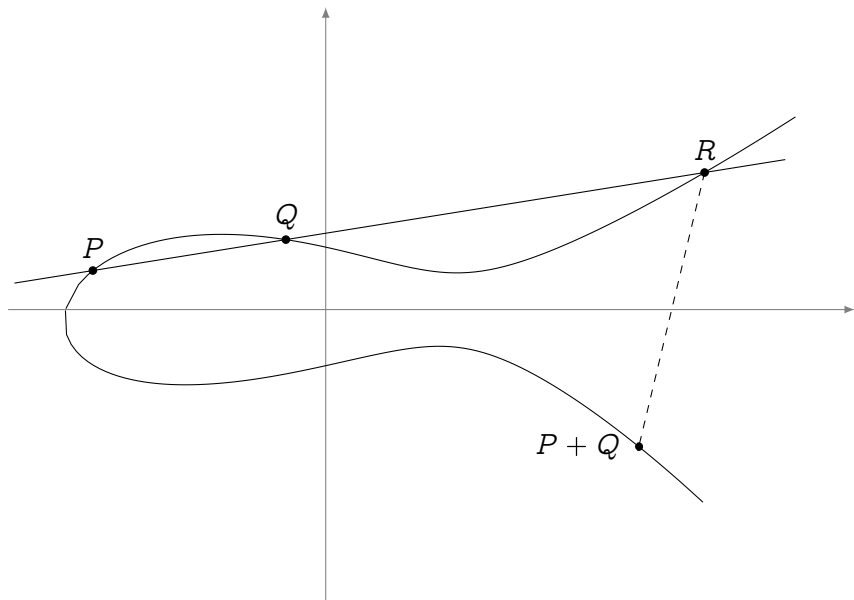
# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism

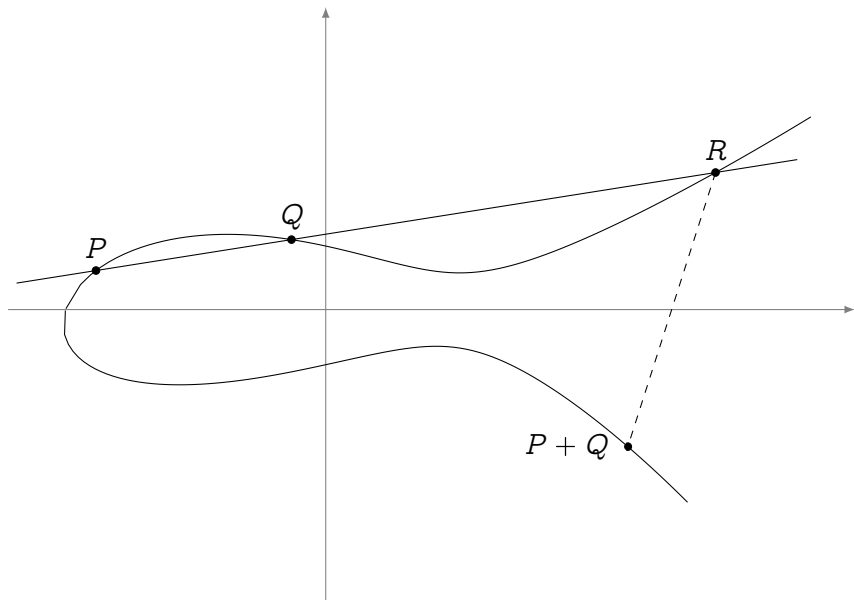


# Up to isomorphism

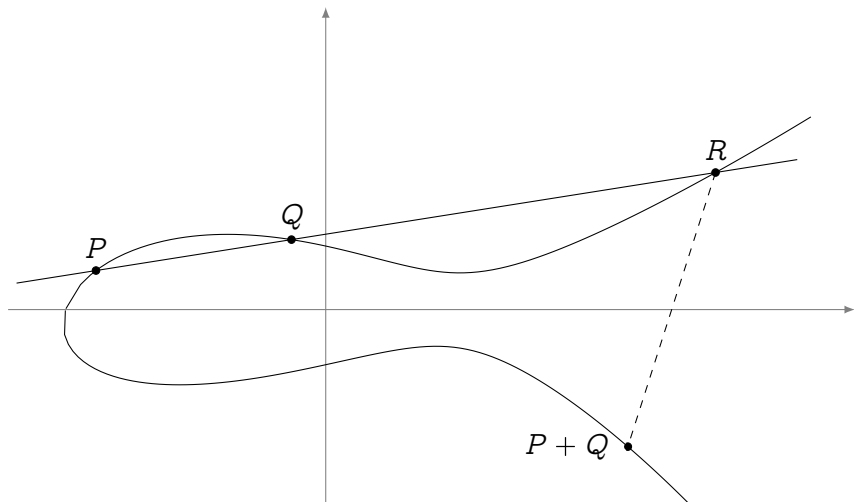




# Up to isomorphism

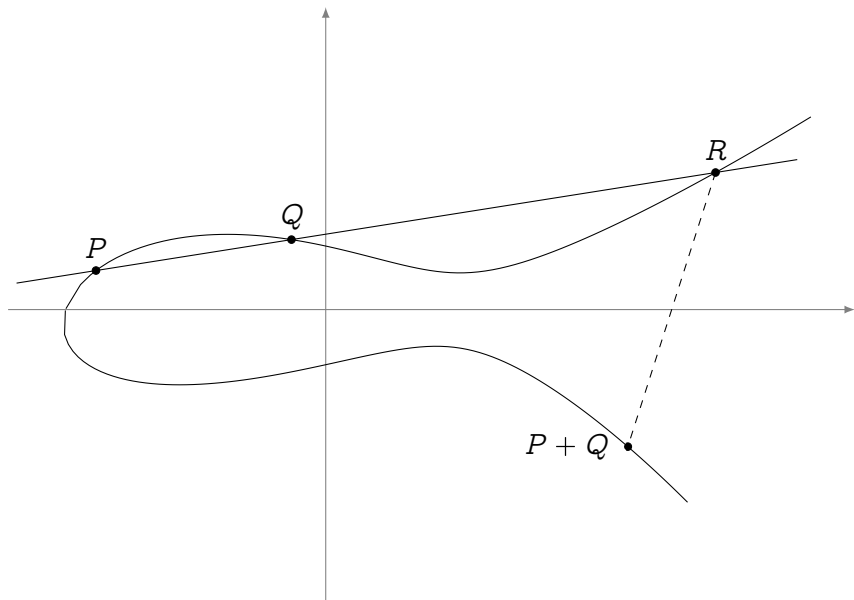


# Up to isomorphism

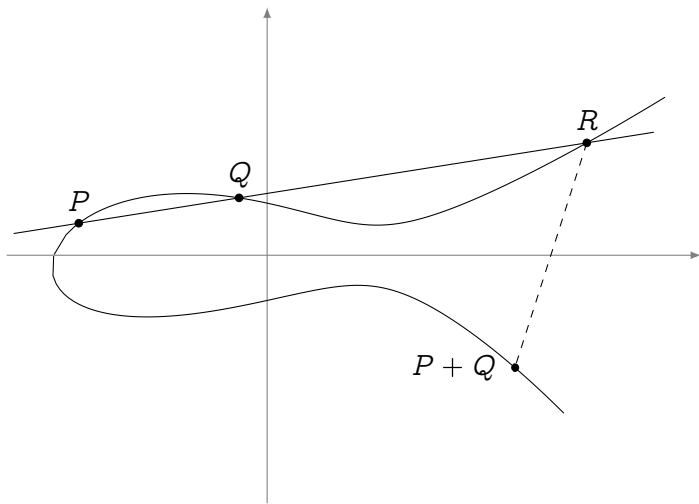


$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \longrightarrow j \equiv 1728 \frac{4a^3}{4a^3 + 27b^2}$$

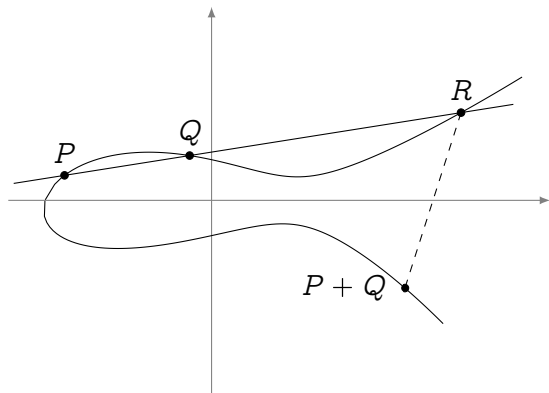
# Up to isomorphism



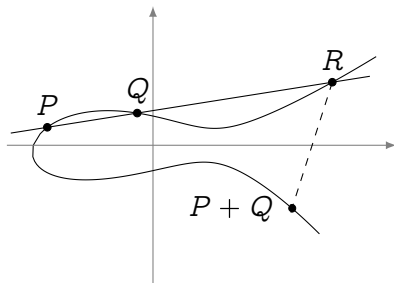
# Up to isomorphism



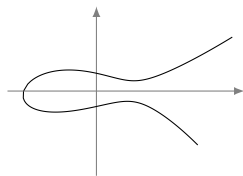
# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism

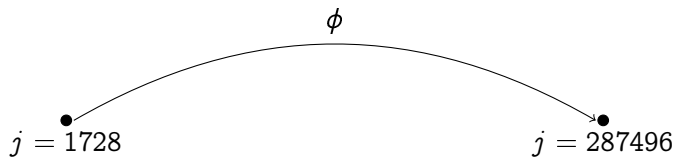




# Up to isomorphism

$$j = 1728^{\bullet}$$

# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism



# Isogeny graphs

## Serre-Tate theorem

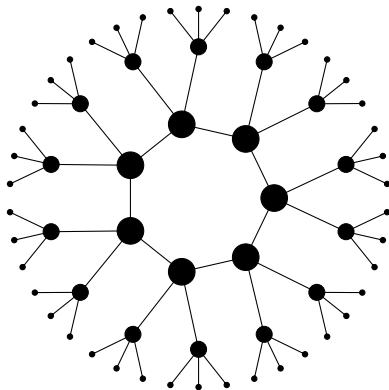
Two elliptic curves  $E, E'$  defined over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  are **isogenous** (over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ) iff  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = \#E'(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

## Isogeny graphs

- Vertices are curves up to isomorphism,
- Edges are isogenies up to isomorphism.

## Isogeny volcanoes

- Curves are ordinary,
- Isogenies all have degree a prime  $\ell$ .



# What do isogeny graphs look like?

## Torsion subgroups ( $\ell$ prime)

In an algebraically closed field:

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

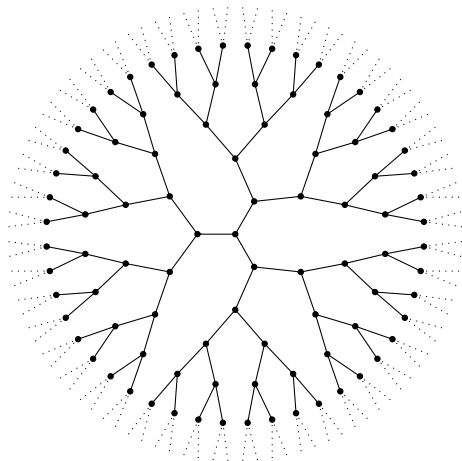


There are exactly  $\ell + 1$  cyclic subgroups  $H \subset E$  of order  $\ell$ :

$$\langle P + Q \rangle, \langle P + 2Q \rangle, \dots, \langle P \rangle, \langle Q \rangle$$



There are exactly  $\ell + 1$  distinct isogenies of degree  $\ell$ .



(non-CM) 2-isogeny graph over  $\mathbb{C}$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$\pi(P) = aP + bQ$$

$$\pi(Q) = cP + dQ$$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$aP + bQ$$

$$cP + dQ$$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$\begin{pmatrix} aP + bQ \\ cP + dQ \end{pmatrix}$$



# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix}$$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$\pi : \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \bmod \ell$$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

## Rational isogenies ( $\ell \neq p$ )

In the algebraic closure  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$

$$E[\ell] = \langle P, Q \rangle \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})^2$$

However, an isogeny is **defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$**  only if its kernel is **Galois invariant**.

Enter the **Frobenius map**

$$\begin{aligned}\pi : E &\longrightarrow E \\ (x, y) &\longmapsto (x^p, y^p)\end{aligned}$$

$E$  is seen here as a curve over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$ .

## The Frobenius action on $E[\ell]$

$$\pi : \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \bmod \ell$$

We identify  $\pi|_{E[\ell]}$  to a conjugacy class in  $\mathrm{GL}(\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})$ .

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

Galois invariant proper subgroups of  $E[\ell]$   
=  
eigenspaces of  $\pi \in \text{GL}(\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})$   
=  
rational isogenies of degree  $\ell$

# What happens over a finite field $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

Galois invariant proper subgroups of  $E[\ell]$   
=  
eigenspaces of  $\pi \in \text{GL}(\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z})$   
=  
rational isogenies of degree  $\ell$

## How many Galois invariant subgroups?

- $\pi|_{E[\ell]} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$   $\rightarrow \ell + 1$  isogenies
- $\pi|_{E[\ell]} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & 0 \\ 0 & \mu \end{pmatrix}$  with  $\lambda \neq \mu$   $\rightarrow$  two isogenies
- $\pi|_{E[\ell]} \sim \begin{pmatrix} \lambda & * \\ 0 & \lambda \end{pmatrix}$   $\rightarrow$  one isogeny
- $\pi|_{E[\ell]}$  has no eigenvalues in  $\mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z}$   $\rightarrow$  no isogeny

# Algebras, orders

- A **quadratic imaginary number field** is an extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$  of the form  $\mathbb{Q}[\sqrt{-D}]$  for some non-square  $D > 0$ .
- A **quaternion algebra** is an algebra of the form  $\mathbb{Q} + \alpha\mathbb{Q} + \beta\mathbb{Q} + \alpha\beta\mathbb{Q}$ , where the generators satisfy the relations

$$\alpha^2, \beta^2 \in \mathbb{Q}, \quad \alpha^2 < 0, \quad \beta^2 < 0, \quad \beta\alpha = -\alpha\beta.$$

## Orders

Let  $K$  be a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Q}$ -algebra. An **order**  $\mathcal{O} \subset K$  is a **subring** of  $K$  that is a finitely generated  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module of **maximal dimension**. An order that is not contained in any other order of  $K$  is called a **maximal order**.

Examples:

- $\mathbb{Z}$  is the only order contained in  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,
- $\mathbb{Z}[i]$  is the only maximal order of  $\mathbb{Q}(i)$ ,
- $\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{5}]$  is a non-maximal order of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{5})$ ,
- The **ring of integers** of a number field is its only maximal order,
- In general, maximal orders in quaternion algebras are **not unique**.

# The endomorphism ring

The **endomorphism ring**  $\text{End}(E)$  of an elliptic curve  $E$  is the ring of all isogenies  $E \rightarrow E$  (plus the null map) with **addition** and **composition**.

## Theorem (Deuring)

Let  $E$  be an elliptic curve defined over a field  $k$  of characteristic  $p$ .  $\text{End}(E)$  is isomorphic to one of the following:

- $\mathbb{Z}$ , only if  $p = 0$

$E$  is **ordinary**.

- An order  $\mathcal{O}$  in a quadratic imaginary field:

$E$  is **ordinary** with **complex multiplication** by  $\mathcal{O}$ .

- Only if  $p > 0$ , a maximal order in a quaternion algebra<sup>a</sup>:

$E$  is **supersingular**.

---

<sup>a</sup>(ramified at  $p$  and  $\infty$ )

# The finite field case

## Theorem (Hasse)

Let  $E$  be defined over a finite field. Its Frobenius endomorphism  $\pi$  satisfies a quadratic equation

$$\pi^2 - t\pi + q = 0$$

in  $\text{End}(E)$  for some  $|t| \leq 2\sqrt{q}$ , called the **trace** of  $\pi$ . The trace  $t$  is coprime to  $q$  if and only if  $E$  is ordinary.

Suppose  $E$  is **ordinary**, then  $D_\pi = t^2 - 4q < 0$  is the **discriminant** of  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ .

- $K = \mathbb{Q}(\pi) = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D_\pi})$  is the **endomorphism algebra** of  $E$ .
- Denote by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  its ring of integers, then

$$\mathbb{Z} \neq \mathbb{Z}[\pi] \subset \text{End}(E) \subset \mathcal{O}_K.$$

In the **supersingular** case,  $\pi$  may or may not be in  $\mathbb{Z}$ , depending on  $q$ .

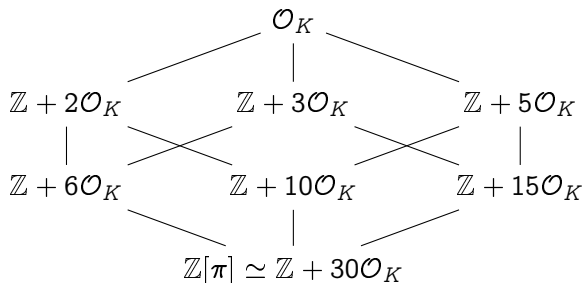


# Endomorphism rings of ordinary curves

## Classifying quadratic orders

Let  $K$  be a quadratic number field, and let  $\mathcal{O}_K$  be its ring of integers.

- Any order  $\mathcal{O} \subset K$  can be written as  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z} + f\mathcal{O}_K$  for an integer  $f$ , called the **conductor** of  $\mathcal{O}$ , denoted by  $[\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$ .
- If  $d_K$  is the **discriminant** of  $K$ , the discriminant of  $\mathcal{O}$  is  $f^2 d_K$ .
- If  $\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}'$  are two orders with discriminants  $d, d'$ , then  $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathcal{O}'$  iff  $d' \mid d$ .

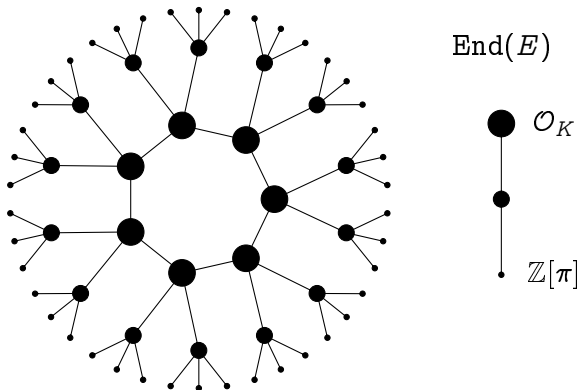


# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

Let  $E, E'$  be curves with respective endomorphism rings  $\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}' \subset K$ .

Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  be an isogeny of prime degree  $\ell$ , then:

if  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}'$ ,  $\phi$  is **horizontal**;  
if  $[\mathcal{O}' : \mathcal{O}] = \ell$ ,  $\phi$  is **ascending**;  
if  $[\mathcal{O} : \mathcal{O}'] = \ell$ ,  $\phi$  is **descending**.

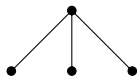


Ordinary isogeny volcano of degree  $\ell = 3$ .

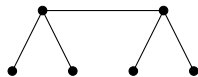
# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

Let  $E$  be ordinary,  
 $\text{End}(E) \subset K$ .

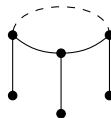
$\mathcal{O}_K$ : maximal order of  $K$ ,  
 $D_K$ : discriminant of  $K$ .



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = -1$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = 0$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = +1$$

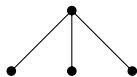
		Horizontal	Ascending	Descending
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		$\ell - \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	$\ell$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	

# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

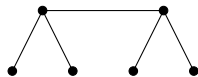
Let  $E$  be ordinary,  
 $\text{End}(E) \subset K$ .

$\mathcal{O}_K$ : maximal order of  $K$ ,  
 $D_K$ : discriminant of  $K$ .

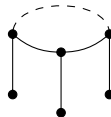
Height =  $v_\ell([\mathcal{O}_K : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]])$ .



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = -1$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = 0$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = +1$$

		Horizontal	Ascending	Descending
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		$\ell - \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	$\ell$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	

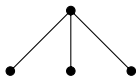
# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

Let  $E$  be ordinary,  
 $\text{End}(E) \subset K$ .

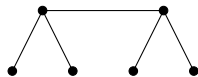
$\mathcal{O}_K$ : maximal order of  $K$ ,  
 $D_K$ : discriminant of  $K$ .

Height =  $v_\ell([\mathcal{O}_K : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]])$ .

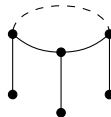
How large is the crater?



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = -1$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = 0$$



$$\left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right) = +1$$

		Horizontal	Ascending	Descending
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		
$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$	$1 + \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$		$\ell - \left(\frac{D_K}{\ell}\right)$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	$\ell$
$\ell \mid [\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$	$\ell \nmid [\mathcal{O} : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]]$		1	

# How large is the crater of a volcano?

Let  $\text{End}(E) = \mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ . Define

- $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{O})$ , the group of **invertible fractional ideals**,
- $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{O})$ , the group of **principal ideals**,

## The class group

The **class group** of  $\mathcal{O}$  is

$$\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{O}) / \mathcal{P}(\mathcal{O}).$$

- It is a **finite abelian** group.
- Its order  $h(\mathcal{O})$  is called the **class number** of  $\mathcal{O}$ .
- It arises as the Galois group of an abelian extension of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ .

# Complex multiplication

## The $\mathfrak{a}$ -torsion

- Let  $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{O}$  be an (integral invertible) ideal of  $\mathcal{O}$ ;
- Let  $E[\mathfrak{a}]$  be the subgroup of  $E$  annihilated by  $\mathfrak{a}$ :

$$E[\mathfrak{a}] = \{P \in E \mid \alpha(P) = 0 \text{ for all } \alpha \in \mathfrak{a}\};$$

- Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E_{\mathfrak{a}}$ , where  $E_{\mathfrak{a}} = E/E[\mathfrak{a}]$ .

Then  $\text{End}(E_{\mathfrak{a}}) = \mathcal{O}$  (i.e.,  $\phi$  is **horizontal**).

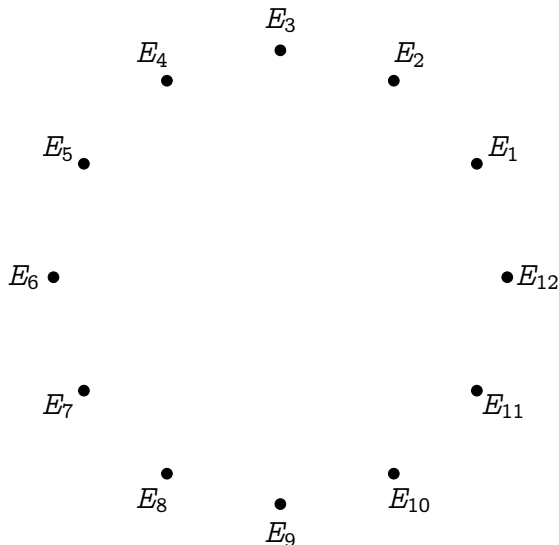
## Theorem (Complex multiplication)

*The action on the set of elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}$  defined by  $\mathfrak{a} * j(E) = j(E_{\mathfrak{a}})$  factors through  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$ , is faithful and transitive.*

## Corollary

*Let  $\text{End}(E)$  have discriminant  $D$ . Assume that  $\left(\frac{D}{\ell}\right) = 1$ , then  $E$  is on a crater of size  $N$  of an  $\ell$ -volcano, and  $N \mid h(\text{End}(E))$*

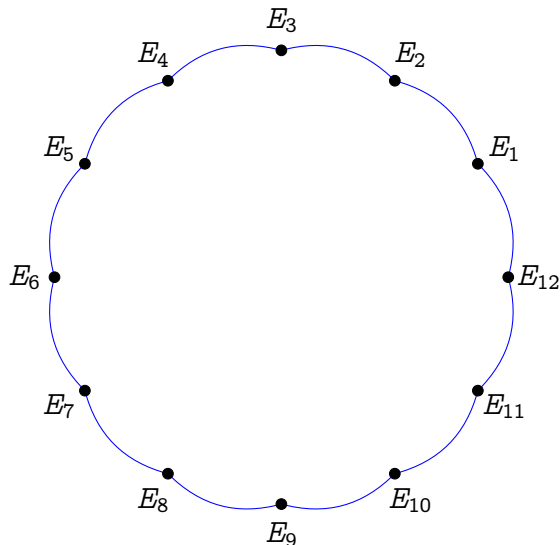
# Complex multiplication graphs



Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).



# Complex multiplication graphs

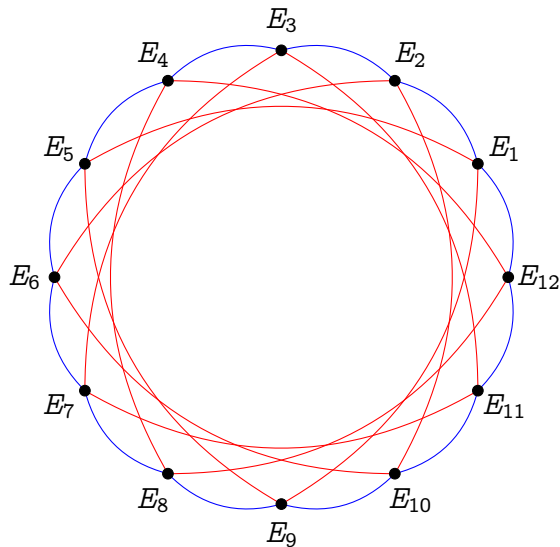


Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).

Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

# Complex multiplication graphs



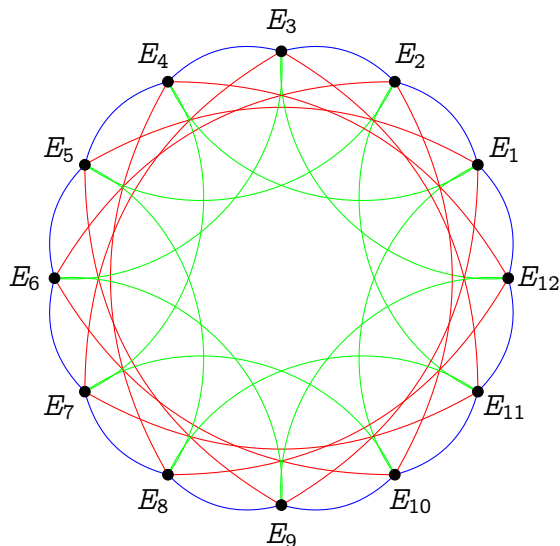
Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).

Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

— degree 3

# Complex multiplication graphs



Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).

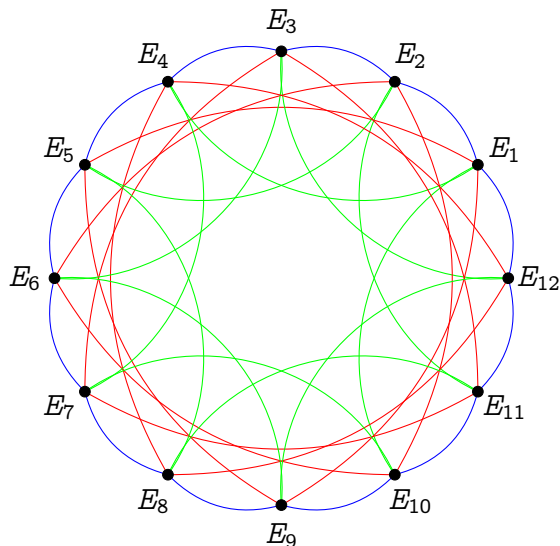
Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

— degree 3

— degree 5

# Complex multiplication graphs



Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).

Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

— degree 3

— degree 5

Isomorphic to a Cayley graph of  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}_K)$ .

# Supersingular endomorphisms

Recall, a curve  $E$  over a field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  of characteristic  $p$  is **supersingular** iff

$$\pi^2 - t\pi + q = 0$$

with  $t = 0 \pmod{p}$ .

Case:  $t = 0 \Rightarrow D_\pi = -4q$

- Only possibility for  $E/\mathbb{F}_p$ ,
- $E/\mathbb{F}_p$  has **CM by an order of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-p})$** , similar to the ordinary case.

Case:  $t = \pm 2\sqrt{q} \Rightarrow D_\pi = 0$

- General case for  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$ , when  $q$  is an even power.
- $\pi = \pm\sqrt{q}$ , hence **no complex multiplication**.

We will ignore marginal cases:  $t = \pm\sqrt{q}, \pm\sqrt{2q}, \pm\sqrt{3q}$ .

# Supersingular complex multiplication

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_p$  be a supersingular curve, then  $\pi^2 = -p$ , and

$$\pi = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{-p} & 0 \\ 0 & -\sqrt{-p} \end{pmatrix} \pmod{\ell}$$

for any  $\ell$  s.t.  $\left(\frac{-p}{\ell}\right) = 1$ .

## Theorem (Delfs, Galbraith 2016)

Let  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(E)$  denote the ring of  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -rational endomorphisms of  $E$ . Then

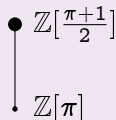
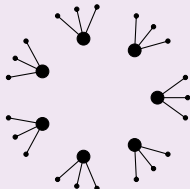
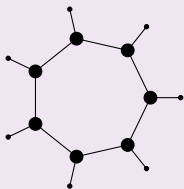
$$\mathbb{Z}[\pi] \subset \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(E) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-p}).$$

## Orders of $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-p})$

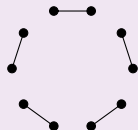
- If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$  is the maximal order.
- If  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{\pi+1}{2}\right]$  is the maximal order, and  $[\mathbb{Z}\left[\frac{\pi+1}{2}\right] : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]] = 2$ .

# Supersingular CM graphs

2-volcanoes,  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$



2-graphs,  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$



All other  $\ell$ -graphs are cycles of horizontal isogenies iff  $\left(\frac{-p}{\ell}\right) = 1$ .

# The full endomorphism ring

## Theorem (Deuring)

Let  $E$  be a **supersingular** elliptic curve, then

- $E$  is isomorphic to a curve defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ ;
- Every **isogeny** of  $E$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ ;
- Every **endomorphism** of  $E$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ ;
- $\text{End}(E)$  is isomorphic to a **maximal order** in a **quaternion algebra** ramified at  $p$  and  $\infty$ .

In particular:

- If  $E$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , then  $\text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(E)$  is strictly contained in  $\text{End}(E)$ .
- Some endomorphisms **do not commute**!



# An example

The curve of  $j$ -invariant 1728

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + x$$

is supersingular over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  iff  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ .

## Endomorphisms

$\text{End}(E) = \mathbb{Z}\langle \iota, \pi \rangle$ , with:

- $\pi$  the Frobenius endomorphism, s.t.  $\pi^2 = -p$ ;
- $\iota$  the map

$$\iota(x, y) = (-x, iy),$$

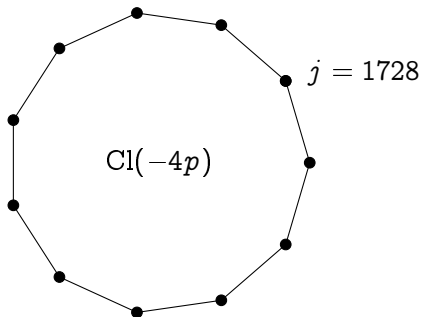
where  $i \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  is a 4-th root of unity. Clearly,  $\iota^2 = -1$ .

And  $\iota\pi = -\pi\iota$ .

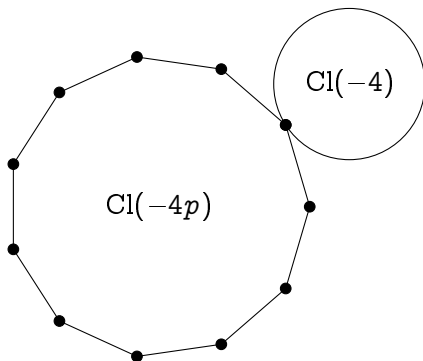
# Class group action party

- $j = 1728$

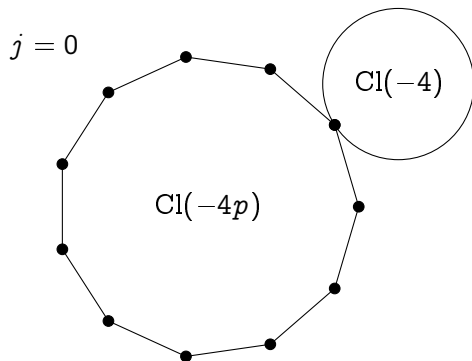
# Class group action party



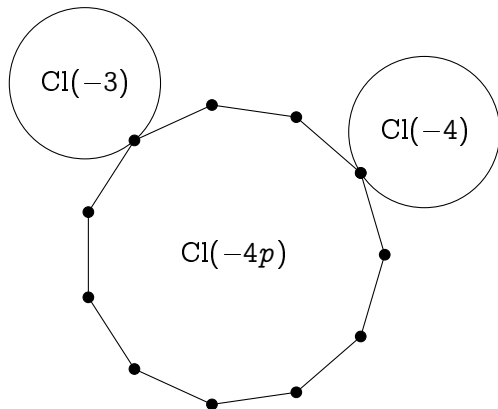
# Class group action party



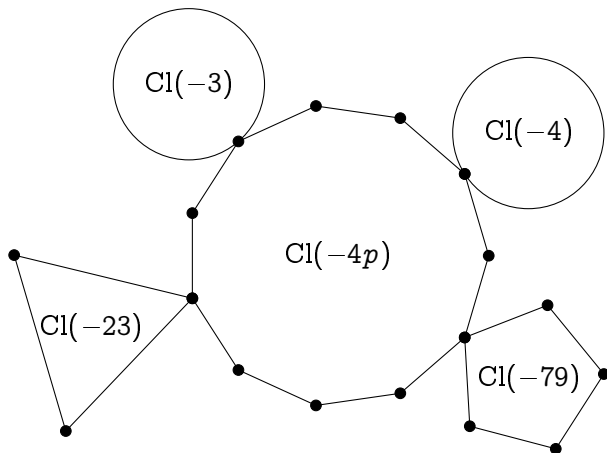
# Class group action party



# Class group action party



# Class group action party



# Quaternion algebra?! WTF?<sup>2</sup>

The quaternion algebra  $B_{p,\infty}$  is:

- A 4-dimensional  $\mathbb{Q}$ -vector space with basis  $(1, i, j, k)$ .
- A non-commutative division algebra<sup>1</sup>  $B_{p,\infty} = \mathbb{Q}\langle i, j \rangle$  with the relations:

$$i^2 = a, \quad j^2 = -p, \quad ij = -ji = k,$$

for some  $a < 0$  (depending on  $p$ ).

- All elements of  $B_{p,\infty}$  are quadratic algebraic numbers.
- $B_{p,\infty} \otimes \mathbb{Q}_\ell \simeq \mathcal{M}_{2 \times 2}(\mathbb{Q}_\ell)$  for all  $\ell \neq p$ .  
I.e., endomorphisms restricted to  $E[\ell^e]$  are just  $2 \times 2$  matrices mod  $\ell^e$ .
- $B_{p,\infty} \otimes \mathbb{R}$  is isomorphic to Hamilton's quaternions.
- $B_{p,\infty} \otimes \mathbb{Q}_p$  is a division algebra.

---

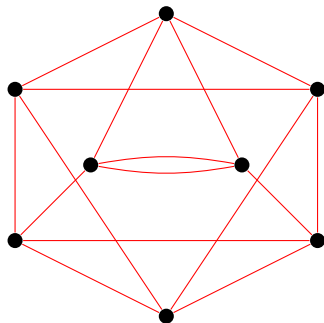
<sup>1</sup>All elements have inverses.

<sup>2</sup>What The Field?



# Supersingular graphs

- Quaternion algebras have **many maximal orders**.
- For every **maximal order type** of  $B_{p,\infty}$  there are **1 or 2 curves over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$**  having endomorphism ring isomorphic to it.
- There is a **unique isogeny class** of supersingular curves over  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$  of size  $\approx p/12$ .
- Left ideals act on the set of maximal orders like isogenies.
- The graph of  $\ell$ -isogenies is  $(\ell + 1)$ -regular.



**Figure:** 3-isogeny graph on  $\mathbb{F}_{97^2}$ .

# Graphs lexicon

**Degree:** Number of (outgoing/ingoing) edges.

**$k$ -regular:** All vertices have degree  $k$ .

**Connected:** There is a path between any two vertices.

**Distance:** The length of the shortest path between two vertices.

**Diameter:** The longest distance between two vertices.

**$\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n$ :** The (ordered) eigenvalues of the adjacency matrix.

# Expander graphs

## Proposition

If  $G$  is a  $k$ -regular graph, its largest and smallest eigenvalues satisfy

$$k = \lambda_1 \geq \lambda_n \geq -k.$$

## Expander families

An infinite family of connected  $k$ -regular graphs on  $n$  vertices is an **expander family** if there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that all **non-trivial** eigenvalues satisfy  $|\lambda| \leq (1 - \epsilon)k$  for  $n$  large enough.

- Expander graphs have **short diameter** ( $O(\log n)$ );
- Random walks **mix rapidly** (after  $O(\log n)$  steps, the induced distribution on the vertices is close to uniform).

# Expander graphs from isogenies

## Theorem (Pizer)

Let  $\ell$  be fixed. The family of graphs of **supersingular** curves over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  with  $\ell$ -isogenies, as  $p \rightarrow \infty$ , is an expander family<sup>a</sup>.

---

<sup>a</sup>Even better, it has the Ramanujan property.

## Theorem (Jao, Miller, Venkatesan)

Let  $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$  be an order in a quadratic imaginary field. The graphs of all curves over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  with **complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}$** , with isogenies of prime degree bounded<sup>a</sup> by  $(\log q)^{2+\delta}$ , are expanders.

---

<sup>a</sup>May contain traces of GRH.

# Executive summary

- Separable  $\ell$ -isogeny = finite kernel = subgroup of  $E[\ell]$ ,
  - ▶ eigenspace of  $\pi$  iff  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -rational,
  - ▶ distinct eigenvalues  $\lambda \neq \mu$  define distinct directions on the crater.
- Isogeny graphs have  $j$ -invariants for vertices and “some” isogenies for edges.
- By varying the choices for the vertex and the isogeny set, we obtain graphs with different properties.
- $\ell$ -isogeny graphs of ordinary curves are volcanoes, (full)  $\ell$ -isogeny graphs of supersingular curves are finite  $(\ell + 1)$ -regular.
- CM theory naturally leads to define graphs of horizontal isogenies (both in the ordinary and the supersingular case) that are isomorphic to Cayley graphs of class groups.
- CM graphs are expanders. Supersingular full  $\ell$ -isogeny graphs are Ramanujan.



# Thank you

<https://defeo.lu/>



@luca\_defeo

## Weil pairing

Let  $(N, p) = 1$ , fix any basis  $E[N] = \langle R, S \rangle$ . For any points  $P, Q \in E[N]$

$$P = aR + bS$$

$$Q = cR + dS$$

the form  $\det_N(P, Q) = \det \begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} = ad - bc \in \mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$

is bilinear, non-degenerate, and independent from the choice of basis.

### Theorem

Let  $E/\mathbb{F}_q$  be a curve, there exists a Galois invariant bilinear map

$$e_N : E[N] \times E[N] \longrightarrow \mu_N \subset \bar{\mathbb{F}}_q,$$

called the Weil pairing of order  $N$ , and a primitive  $N$ -th root of unity  $\zeta \in \bar{\mathbb{F}}_q$  such that

$$e_N(P, Q) = \zeta^{\det_N(P, Q)}.$$

The degree  $k$  of the smallest extension such that  $\zeta \in \mathbb{F}_{q^k}$  is called the embedding degree of the pairing.

# Weil pairing and isogenies

## Note

The Weil pairing is Galois invariant  $\Leftrightarrow \det(\pi|E[N]) = q$ .

## Theorem

Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  be an isogeny and  $\hat{\phi} : E' \rightarrow E$  its dual.  
Let  $e_N$  be the Weil pairing of  $E$  and  $e'_N$  that of  $E'$ . Then, for

$$e_N(P, \hat{\phi}(Q)) = e'_N(\phi(P), Q),$$

for any  $P \in E[N]$  and  $Q \in E'[N]$ .

## Corollary

$$e'_N(\phi(P), \phi(Q)) = e_N(P, Q)^{\deg \phi}.$$