



# Isogeny Based Cryptography: an Introduction

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

# Why isogenies?

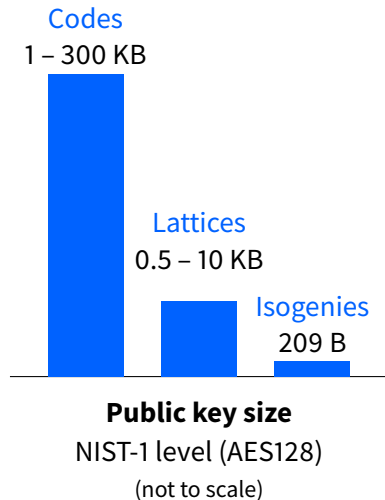
Six families still in NIST post-quantum competition:

Lattices	9 encryption	3 signature
Codes	7 encryption	
Multivariate		4 signature
Isogenies	1 encryption	
Hash-based		1 signature
MPC		1 signature

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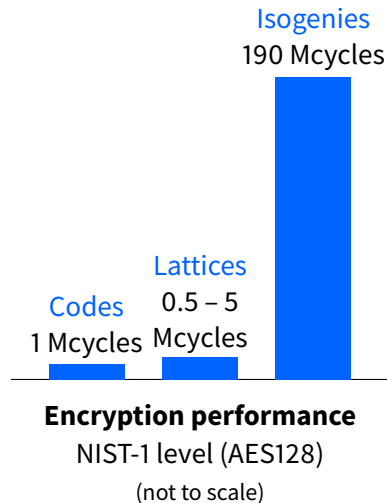
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*“We found that CECPQ2 ([NTRU] the ostrich) outperformed CECPQ2b ([SIKE] the turkey), for the majority of connections in the experiment, indicating that **fast algorithms with large keys may be more suitable for TLS than slow algorithms with small keys**. However, **we observed the opposite**—that CECPQ2b outperformed CECPQ2—for **the slowest connections on some devices**, including Windows computers and Android mobile devices. One possible explanation for this is packet fragmentation and packet loss.”*

— K. Kwiatkowski, L. Valenta (Cloudflare)

[The TLS Post-Quantum Experiment](https://blog.cloudflare.com/the-tls-post-quantum-experiment/)

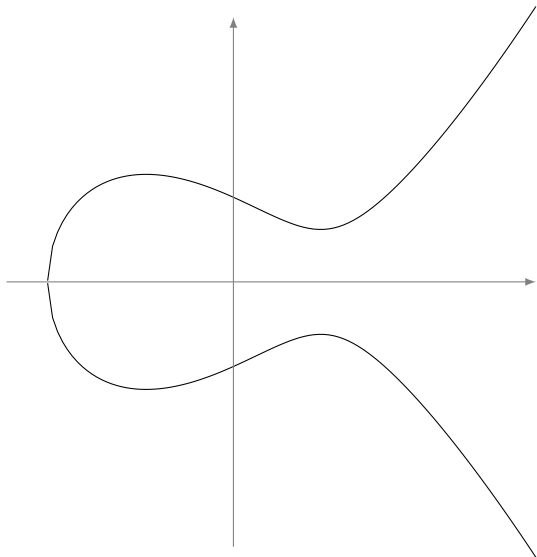
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# Weierstrass equations

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



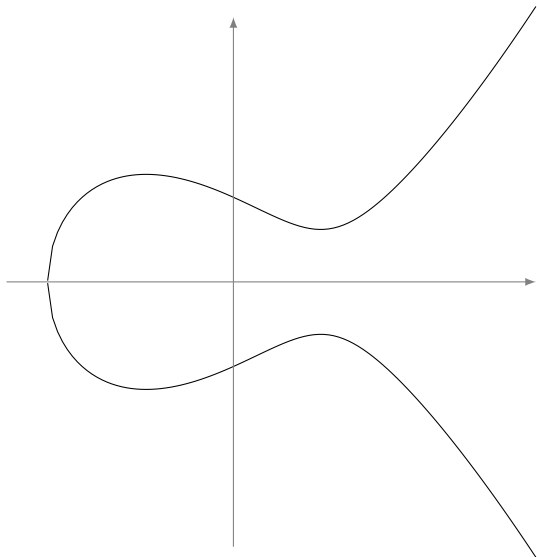
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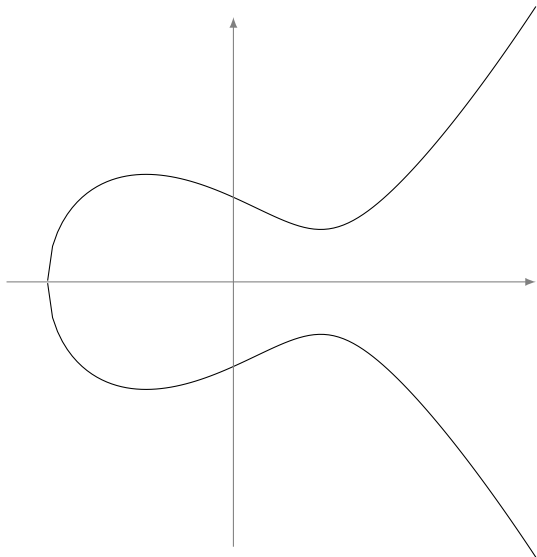
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- $\mathcal{O} = (0 : 1 : 0)$  is the **point at infinity**;
- $y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  is the **affine equation**.



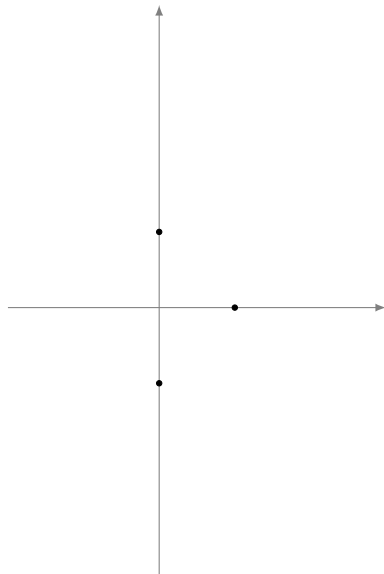


# Attention: arithmetic geometry!

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

Rational points:

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

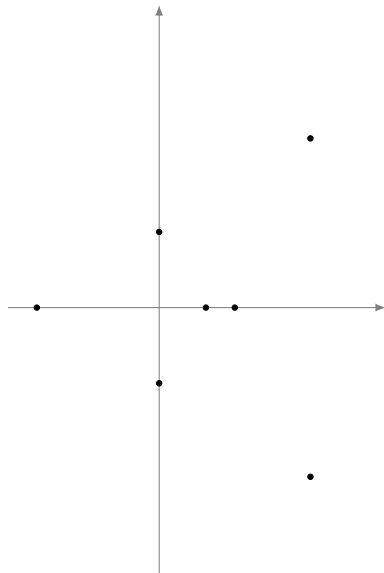


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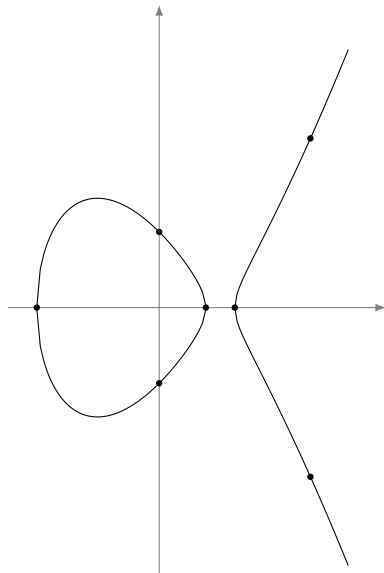


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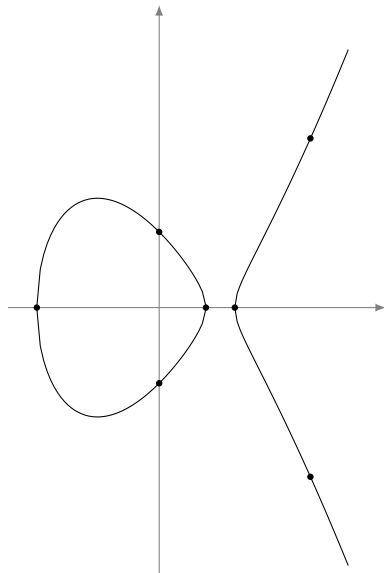


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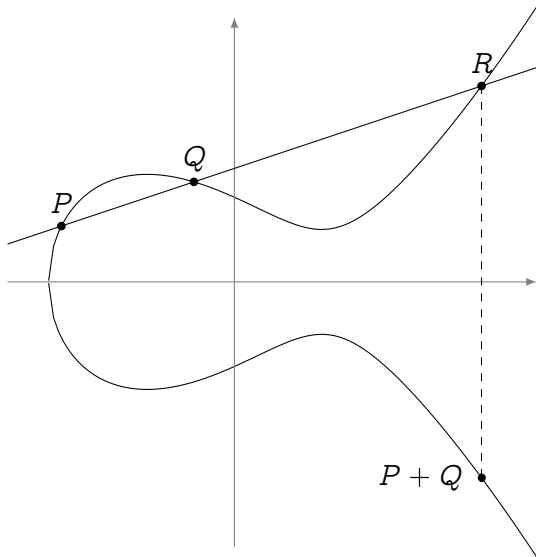


# The group law

## 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.



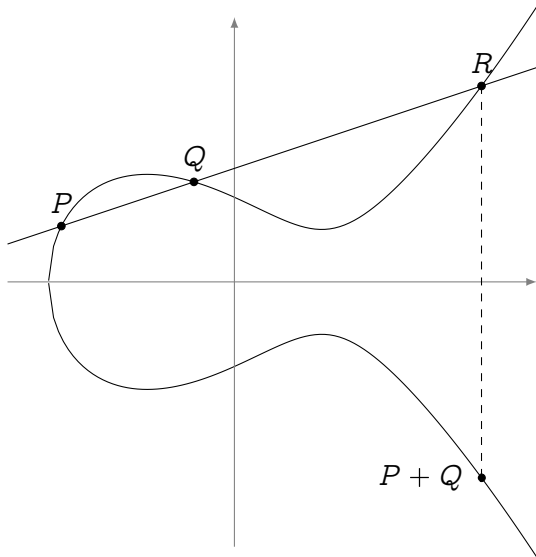
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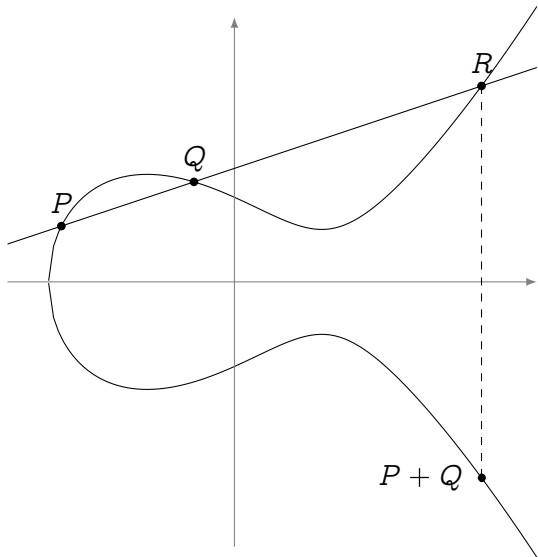
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Define a **group law** such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

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



# 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  $n^2$ .

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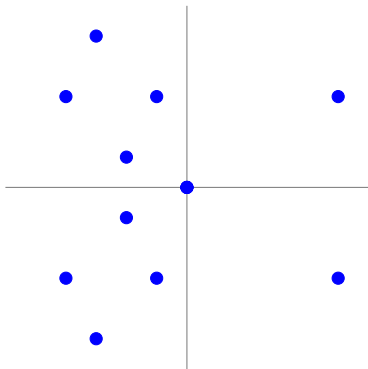
(Separable) isogenies  $\Leftrightarrow$  finite subgroups:

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

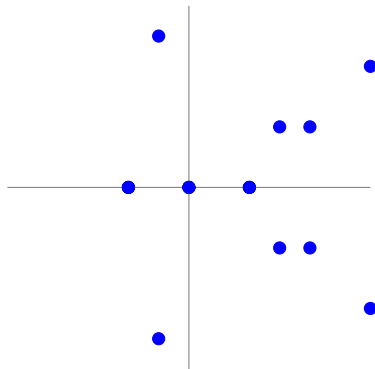


## Isogenies: an example over $\mathbb{F}_{11}$

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



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

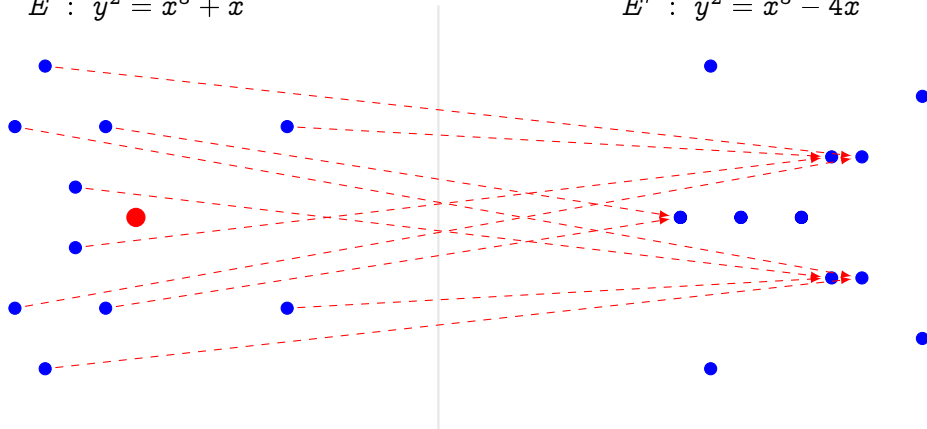


$$\phi(x, y) = \left( \frac{x^2 + 1}{x}, \quad y \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2} \right)$$

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

- 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

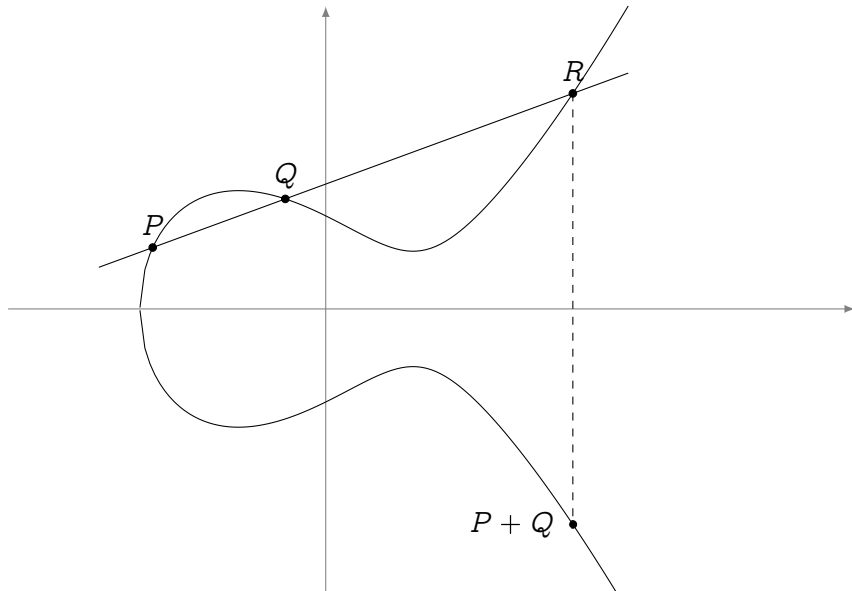
Let  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  be an isogeny of degree  $m$ . There is a unique isogeny  $\hat{\phi} : E' \rightarrow E$  such that

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

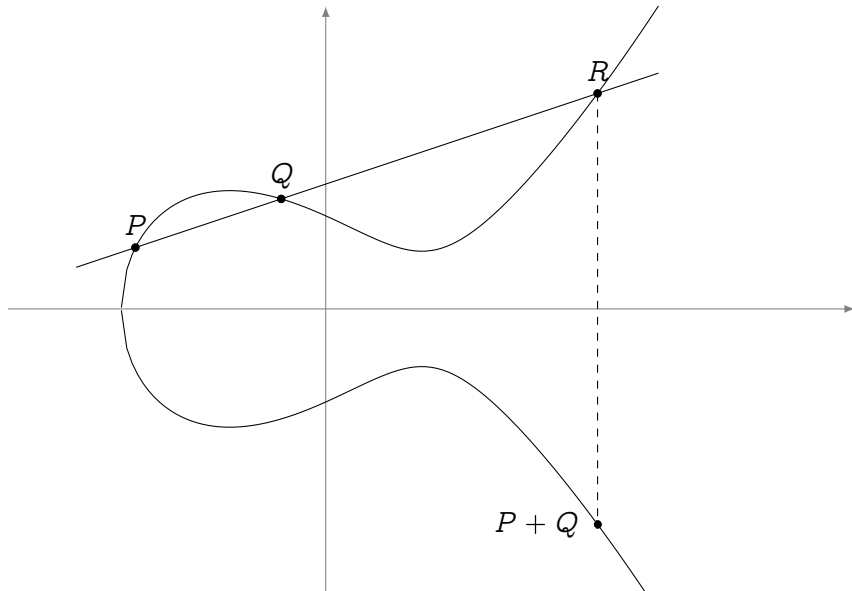
$\hat{\phi}$  is called the **dual isogeny of  $\phi$** ; it has the following properties:

- 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  $\hat{\hat{\phi}} = \phi$ .

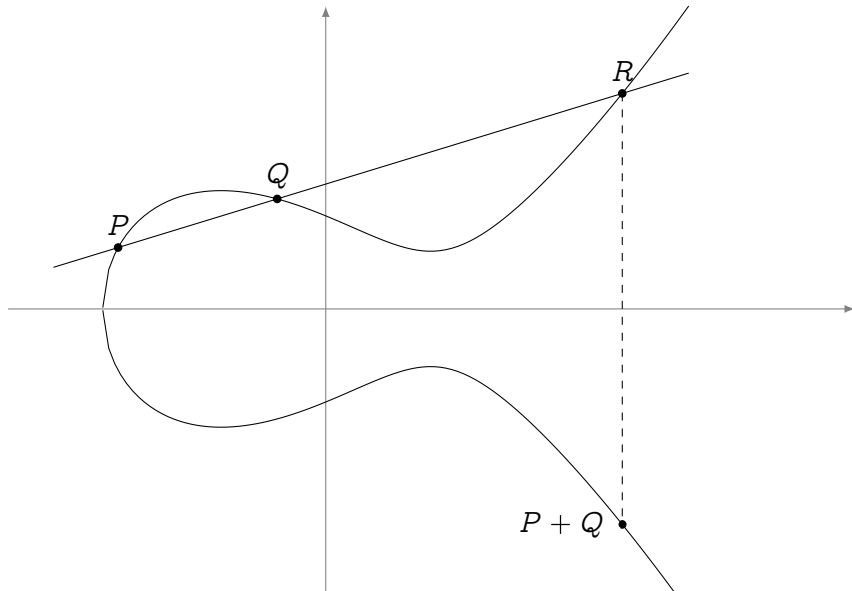
## Up to isomorphism



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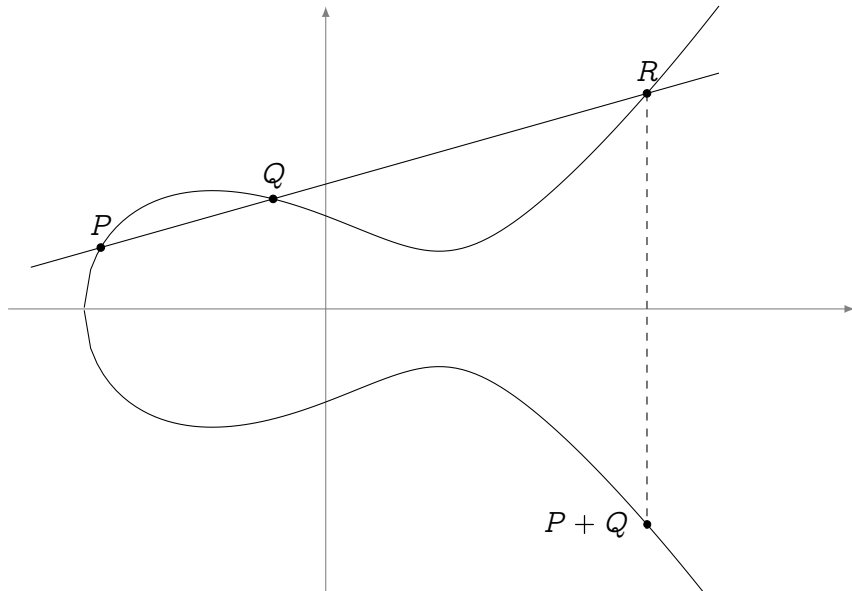


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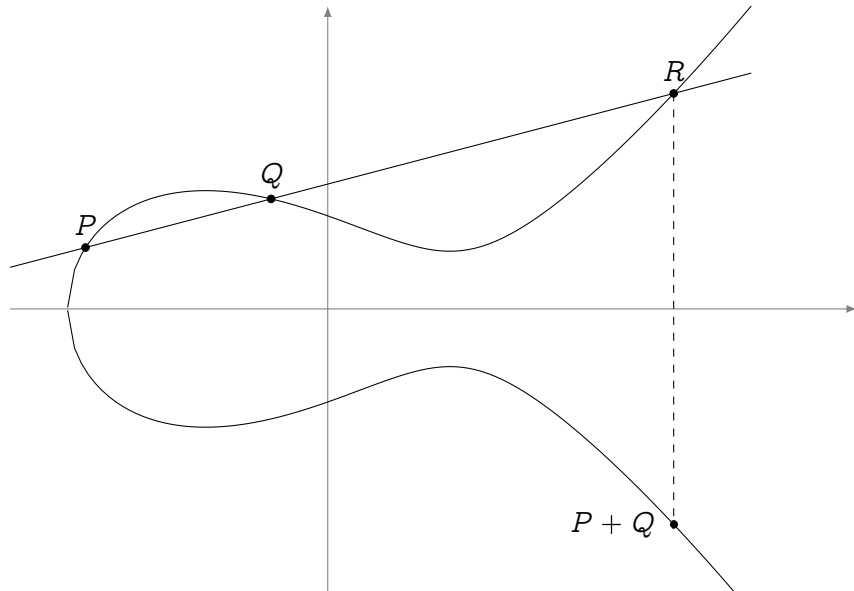




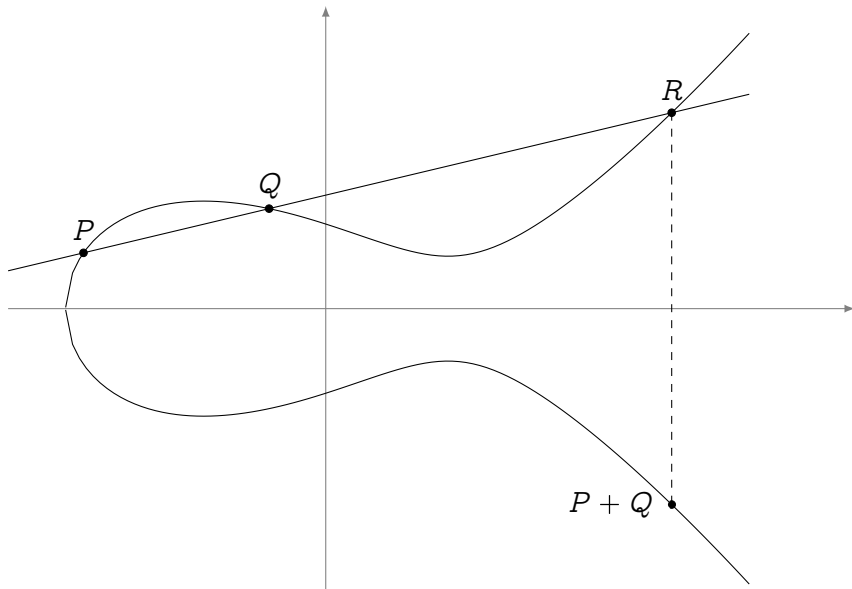
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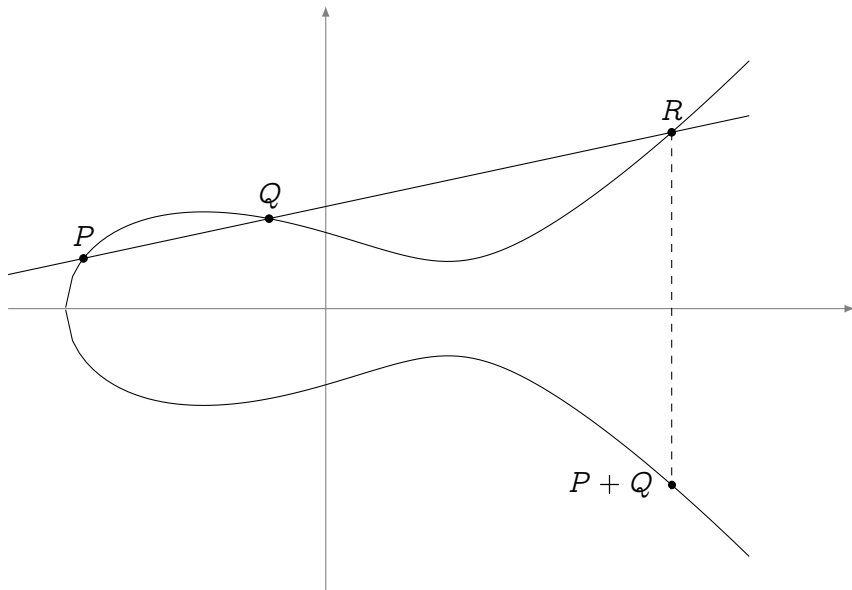
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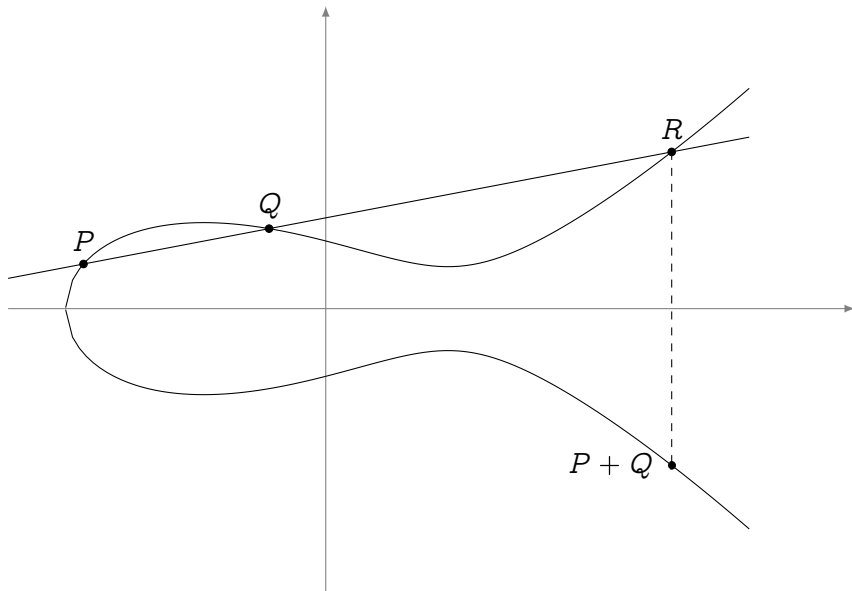
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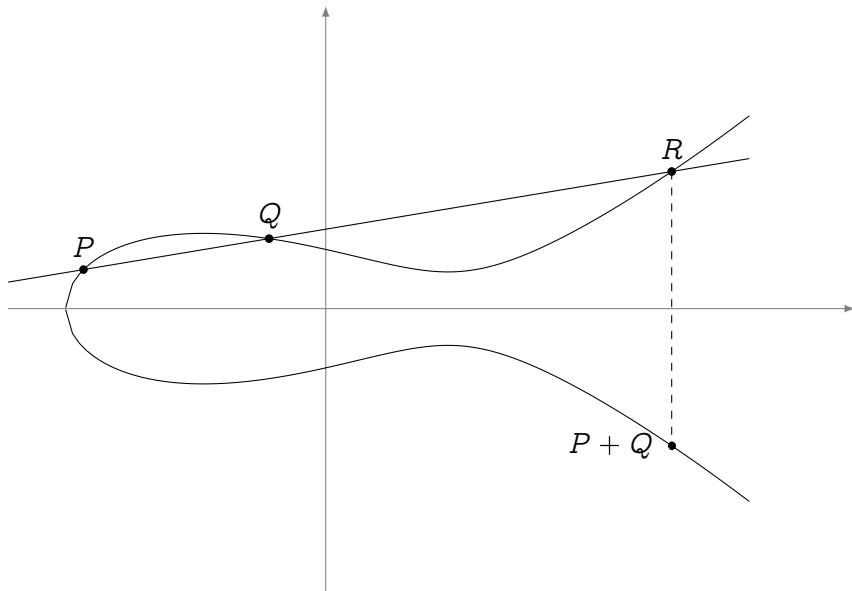
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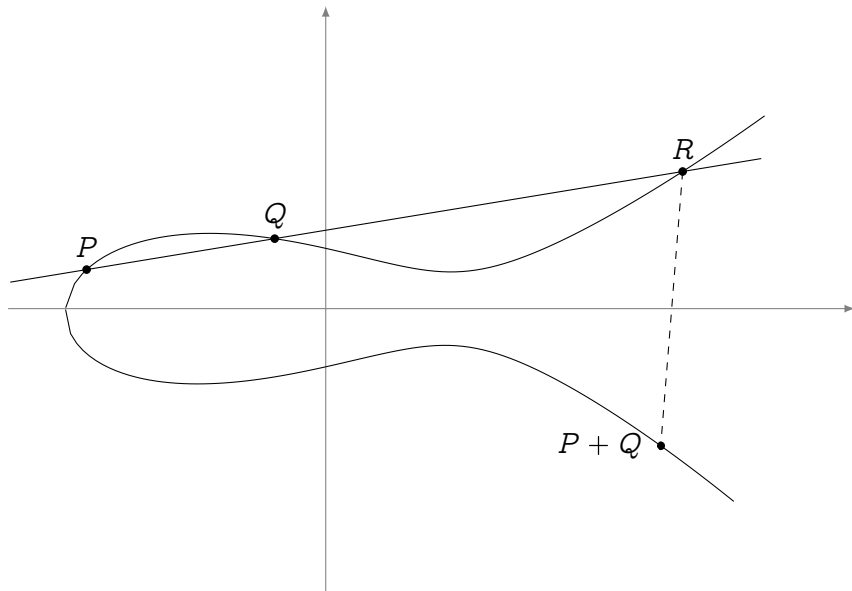
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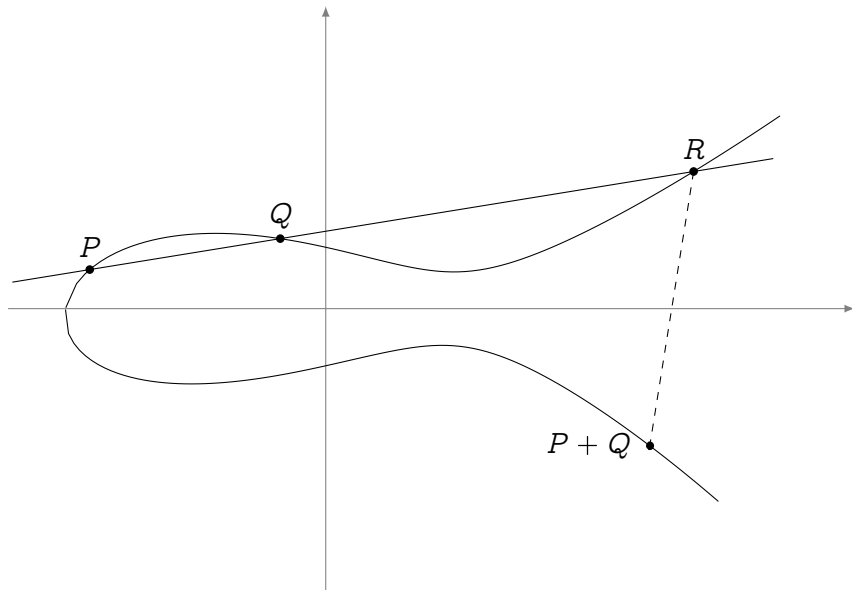
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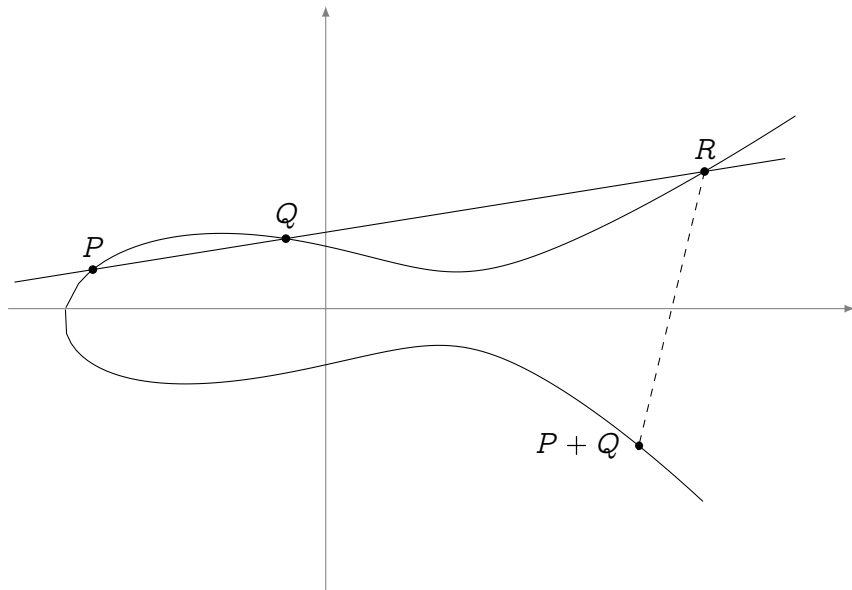


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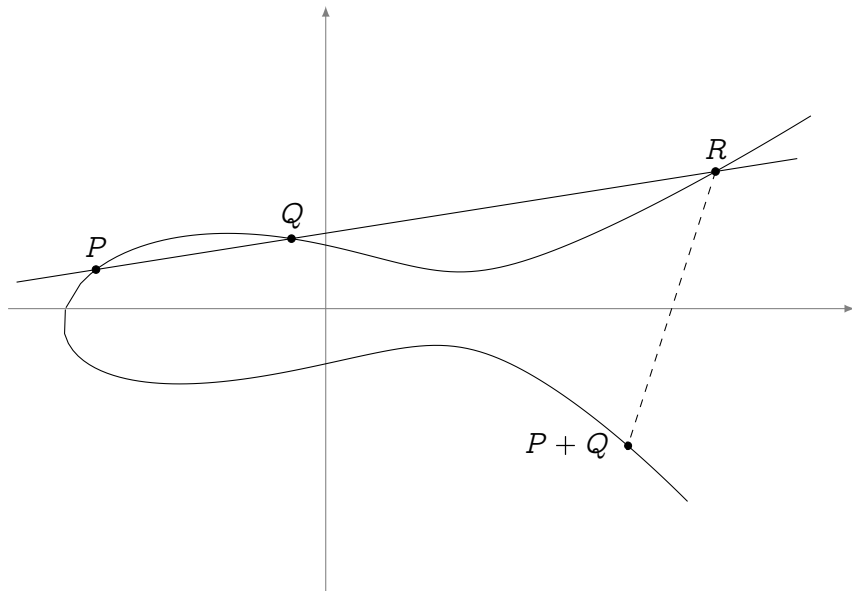




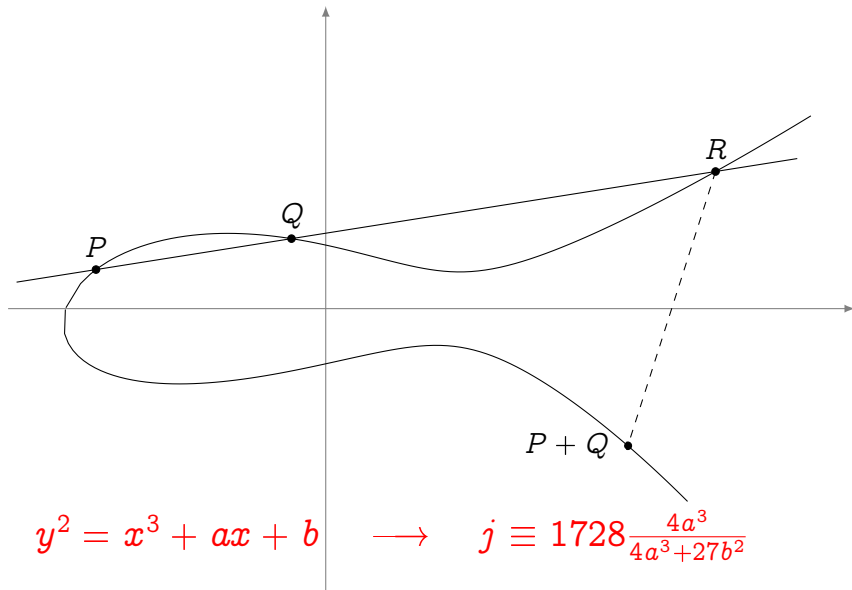
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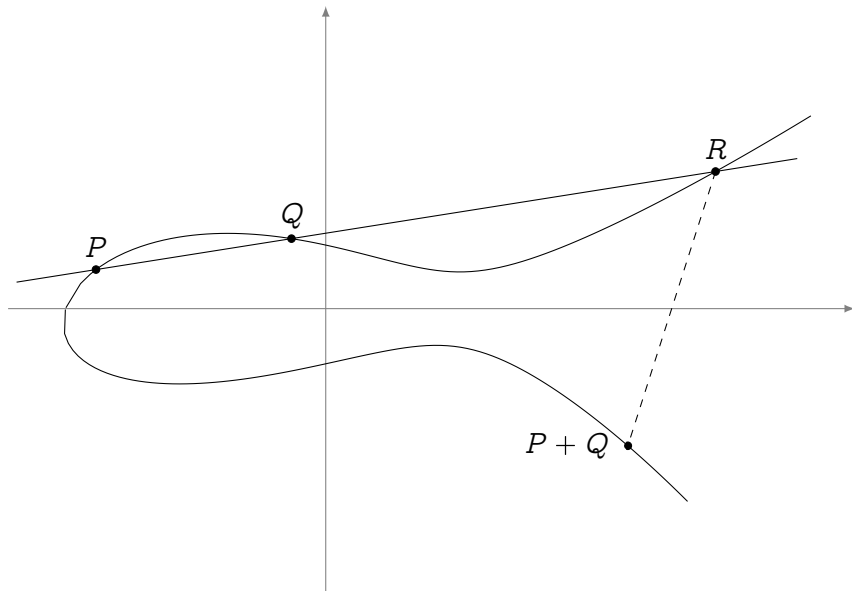
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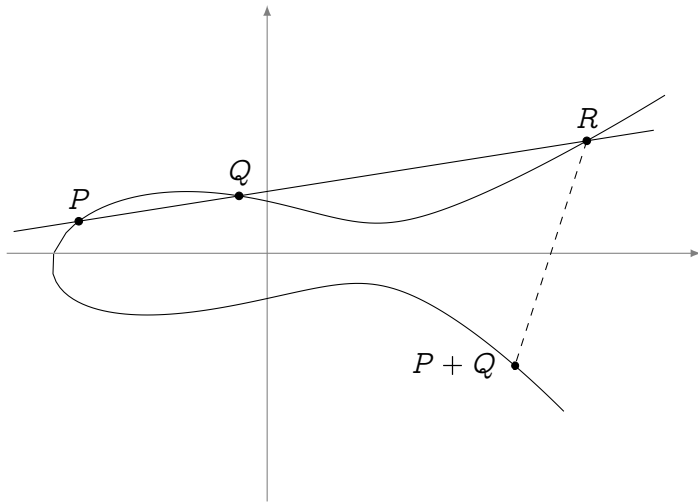
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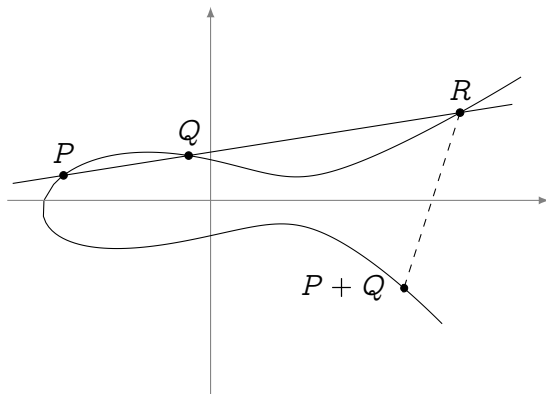
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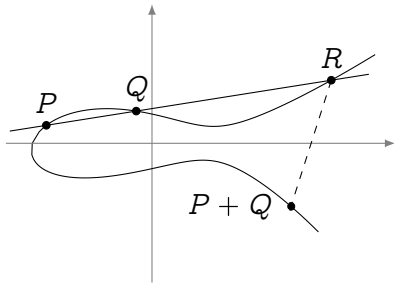
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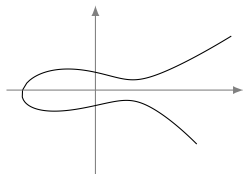
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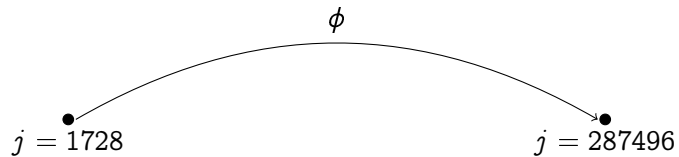
# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism

$$j = 1728^\bullet$$

# Up to isomorphism



# Up to isomorphism



# Isogeny graphs

## Serre-Tate theorem

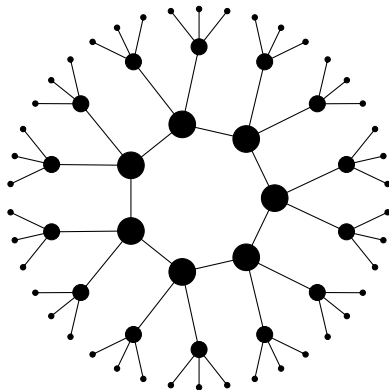
Two elliptic curves  $E, E'$  defined over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_q$  are **isogenous** (over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ ) iff  $\#E(\mathbb{F}_q) = \#E'(\mathbb{F}_q)$ .

## 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  $\ell$ .



# 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  $\infty$ )

# 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 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  $q$ .

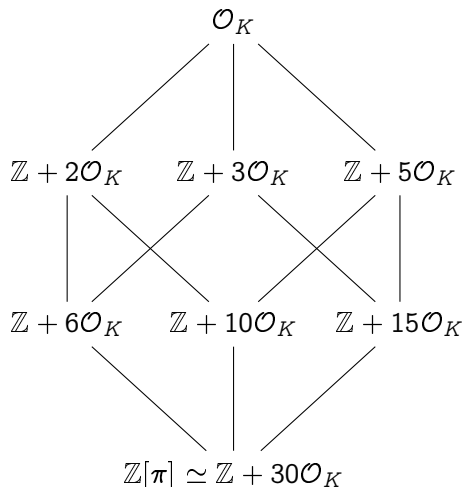


# Endomorphism rings of ordinary curves

## Classifying quadratic orders

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

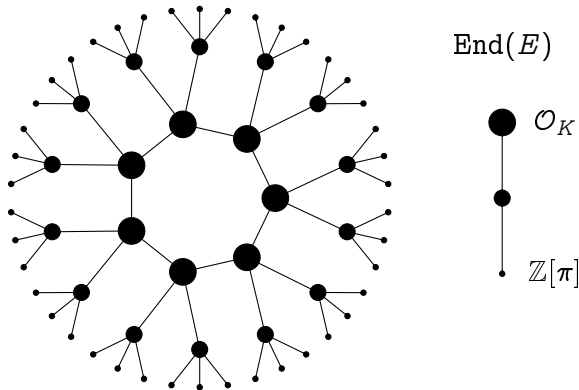
- Any order  $\mathcal{O} \subset K$  can be written as  $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z} + f\mathcal{O}_K$  for an integer  $f$ , called the **conductor** of  $\mathcal{O}$ , denoted by  $[\mathcal{O}_K : \mathcal{O}]$ .
- If  $d_K$  is the **discriminant** of  $K$ , the discriminant of  $\mathcal{O}$  is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



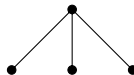
Ordinary isogeny volcano of degree  $\ell = 3$ .

# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

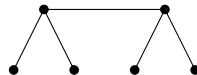
Let  $E$  be ordinary,  $\text{End}(E) \subset K$ .

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

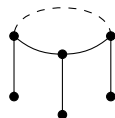
$D_K$ : discriminant of  $K$ .



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



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



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

		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	

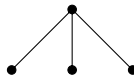
# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

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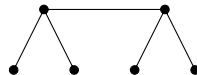
$\mathcal{O}_K$ : maximal order of  $K$ ,

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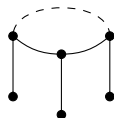
Height =  $v_\ell([\mathcal{O}_K : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]])$ .



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



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



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

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

# Volcanology (Kohel 1996)

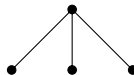
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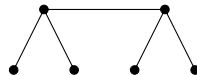
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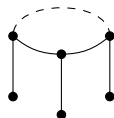
How large is the crater?



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



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



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

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

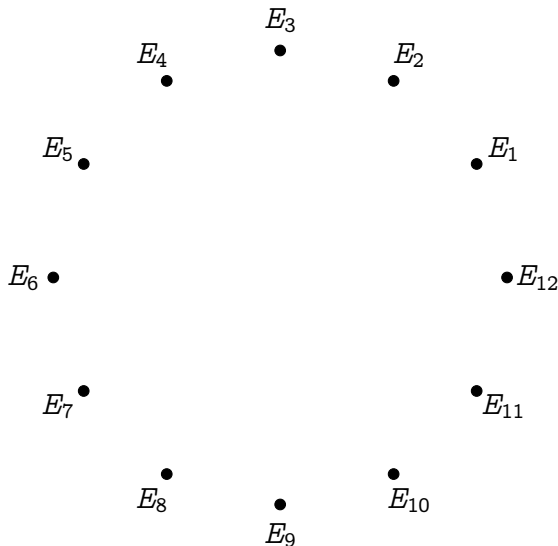
*The action on the set of elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}$  defined by  $\mathfrak{a} * j(E) = j(E_{\mathfrak{a}})$  factors through  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$ , is faithful and transitive.*

## 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  $N \mid h(\text{End}(E))$ .*

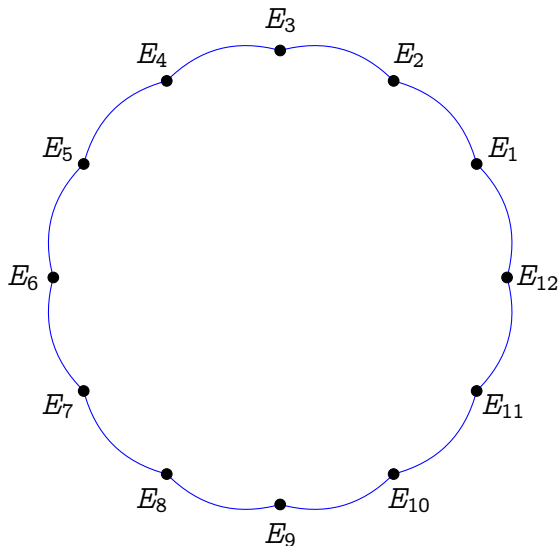
# Complex multiplication graphs

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

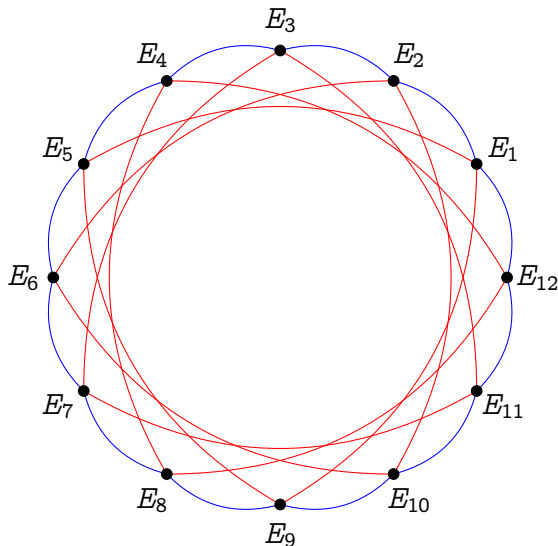


Vertices are elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}_K$  (i.e.,  $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ ).

Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

# Complex multiplication graphs



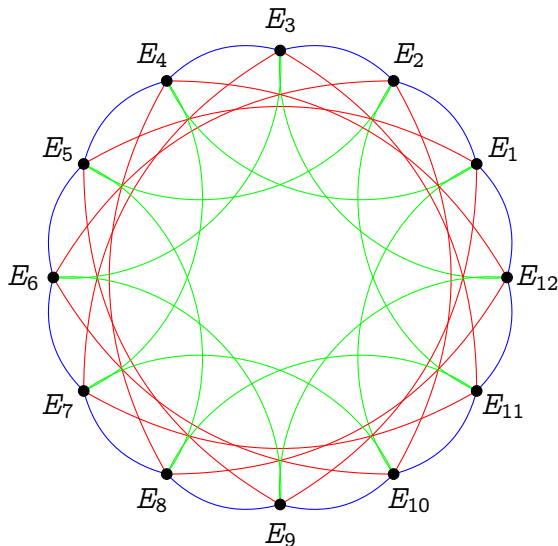
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Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— degree 2

— degree 3

# Complex multiplication graphs



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

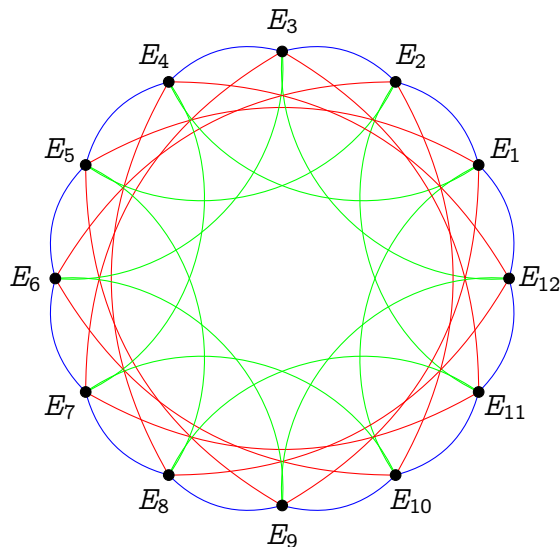
Edges are horizontal isogenies of bounded prime degree.

— 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.
- $\pi = \pm\sqrt{q} \in \mathbb{Z}$ , 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  $\pi^2 = -p$ .

## Theorem (Delfs, Galbraith 2016)

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

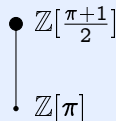
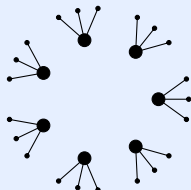
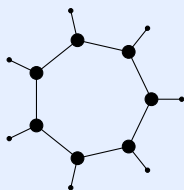
$$\mathbb{Z}[\pi] \subset \text{End}_{\mathbb{F}_p}(E) \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-p}).$$

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

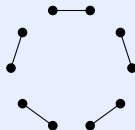
- If  $p \equiv 1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}[\pi]$  is the maximal order.
- If  $p \equiv -1 \pmod{4}$ , then  $\mathbb{Z}[\frac{\pi+1}{2}]$  is the maximal order, and  $[\mathbb{Z}[\frac{\pi+1}{2}] : \mathbb{Z}[\pi]] = 2$ .

# Supersingular CM graphs

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



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



$$\bullet \mathbb{Z}[\pi]$$

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

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

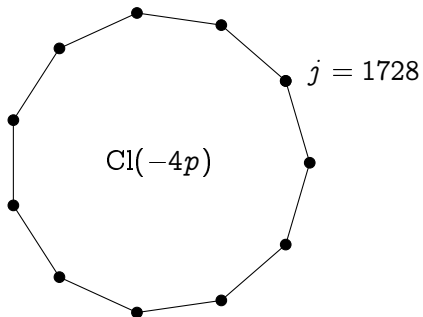
where  $i \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  is a 4-th root of unity. Clearly,  $\iota^2 = -1$ .

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

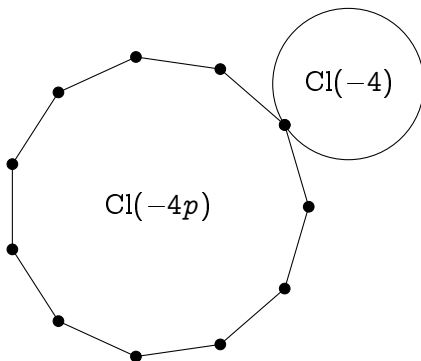
# Class group action party

- $j = 1728$

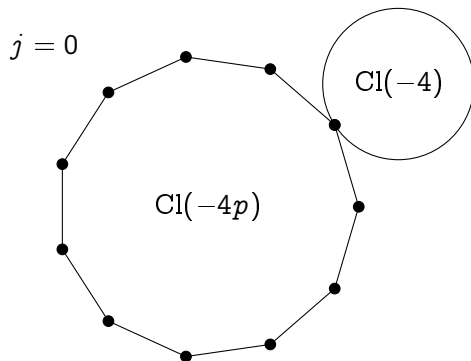
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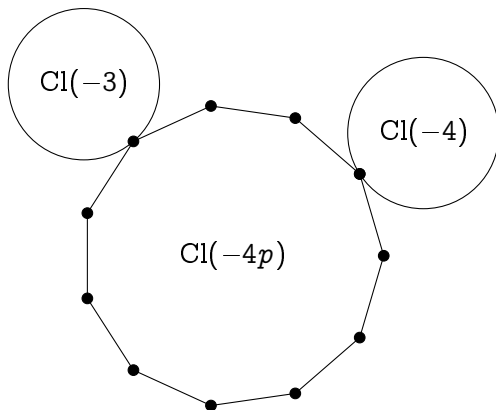
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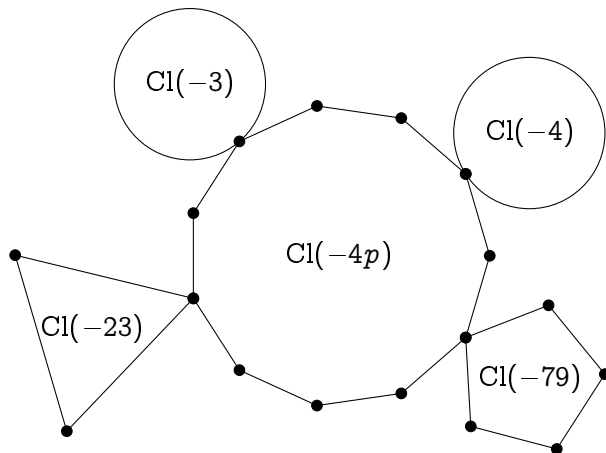
# Class group action party



# Class group action party



# Class group action party



# 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.

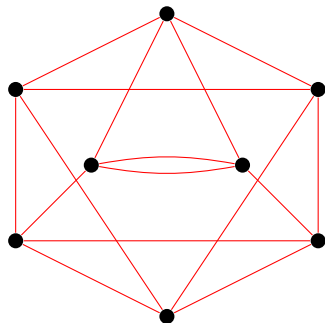


Figure: 3-isogeny graph on  $\mathbb{F}_{97^2}$ .



# 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  $E[\ell]$  (= ideal of norm  $\ell$ ),
- 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.



# Isogeny Based Cryptography: an Introduction

Luca De Feo

IBM Research Zürich

November 18, 2019

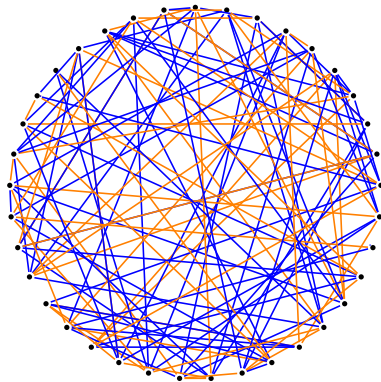
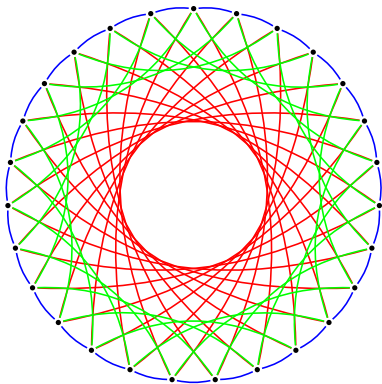
Simula UiB, Bergen

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

# The beauty and the beast

(credit: Lorenz Panny)

Components of particular isogeny graphs look like this:

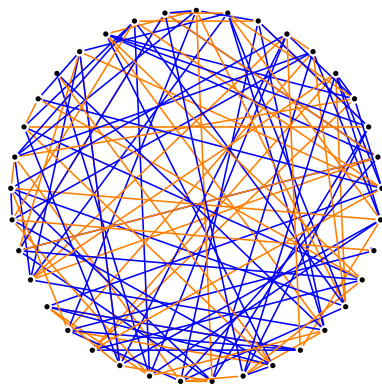
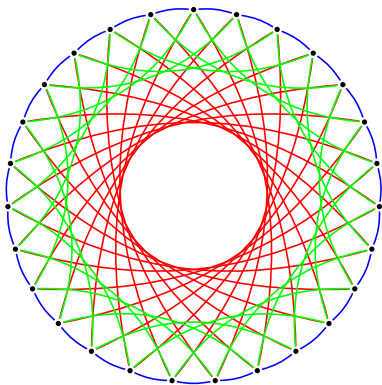


*Which of these is good for crypto?*

# The beauty and the beast

(credit: Lorenz Panny)

Components of particular isogeny graphs look like this:

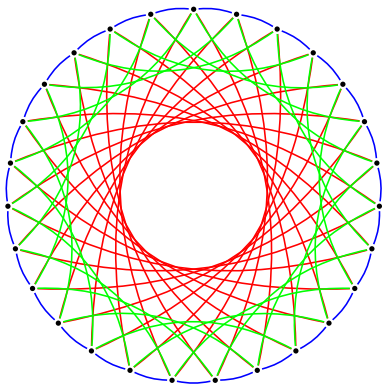


*Which of these is good for crypto? **Both.***

# The beauty and the beast

(credit: Lorenz Panny)

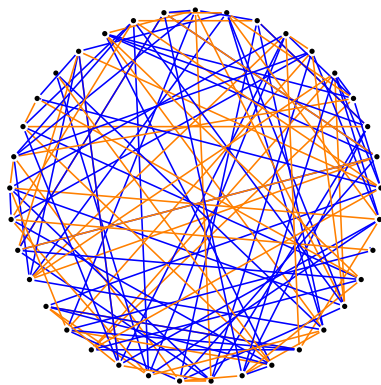
At this time, there are two distinct families of systems:



$\mathbb{F}_p$

**CSIDH** [pron.: sea-side]

<https://csidh.isogeny.org>



$\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$

**SIDH**

<https://sike.org>

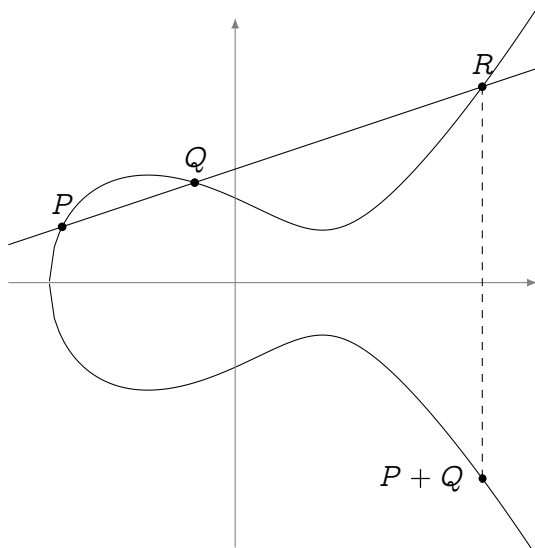


# Brief history of isogeny-based cryptography

- 1997 Couveignes introduces the [Hard Homogeneous Spaces](#) framework. His work stays unpublished for 10 years.
- 2006 Rostovtsev & Stolbunov independently rediscover Couveignes ideas, suggest isogeny-based Diffie–Hellman as a [quantum-resistant](#) primitive.
- 2006-2010 Other isogeny-based protocols by Teske and Charles, Goren & Lauter.
- 2011-2012 D., Jao & Plût introduce [SIDH](#), an efficient post-quantum key exchange inspired by Couveignes, Rostovtsev, Stolbunov, Charles, Goren, Lauter.
- 2017 SIDH is submitted to the NIST competition (with the name [SIKE](#), only isogeny-based candidate).
- 2018 D., Kieffer & Smith *resurrect* the Couveignes–Rostovtsev–Stolbunov protocol, Castryck, Lange, Martindale, Panny & Renes create an efficient variant named [CSIDH](#).
- 2019 The year of proofs of isogeny knowledge: [SeaSign](#) (D. & Galbraith; Decru, Panny & Vercauteren), [CSI-FiSh](#) (Beullens, Kleinjung & Vercauteren), [VDF](#) (D., Masson, Petit & Sanso), [threshold](#) (D. & Meyer).

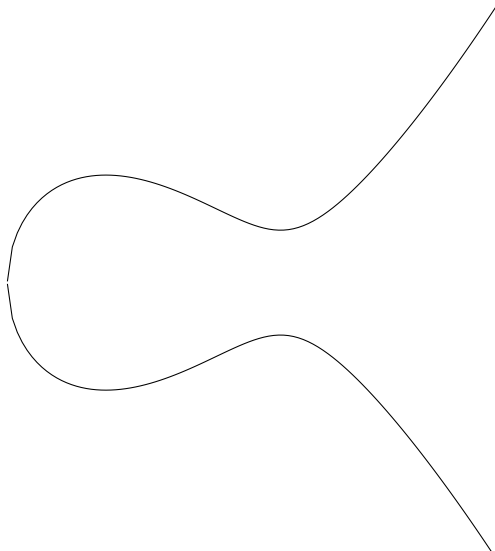
# Elliptic curves

Let  $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  be an elliptic curve...



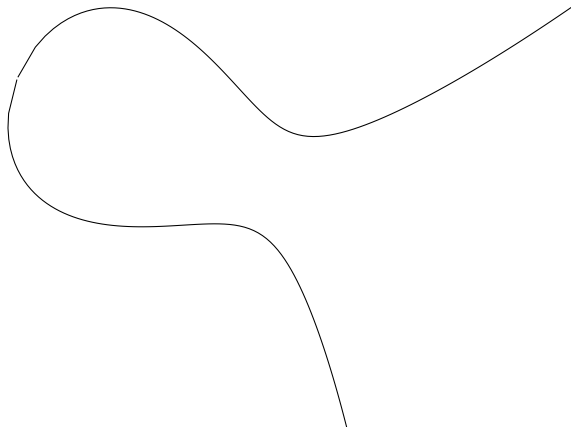
# Elliptic curves

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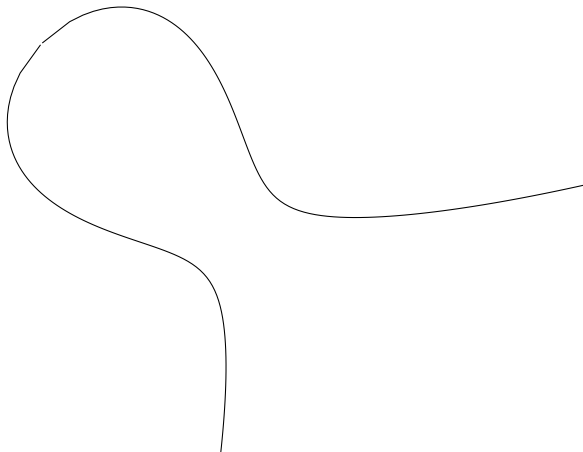
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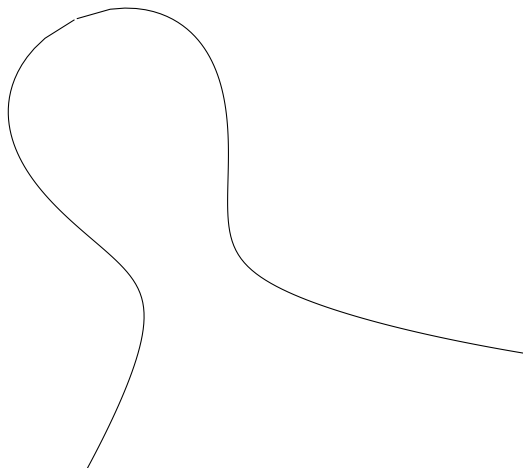
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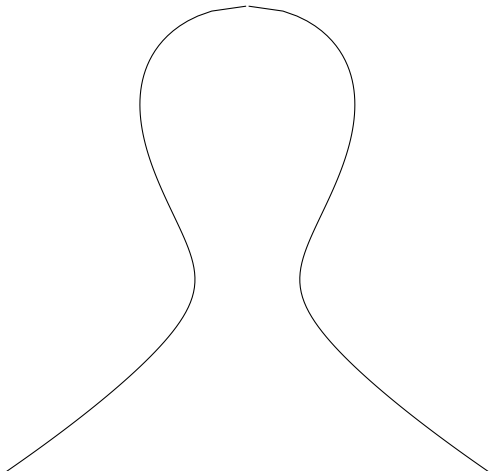
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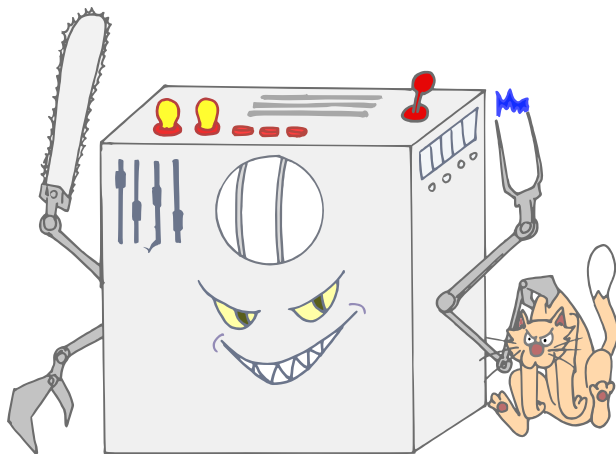


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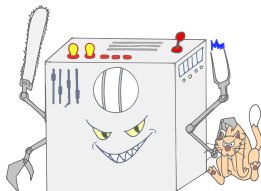




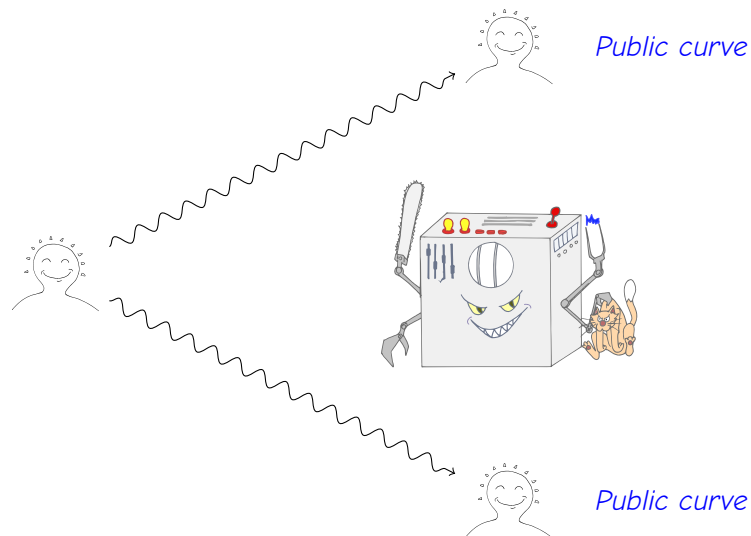
# The QUANTHOM Menace



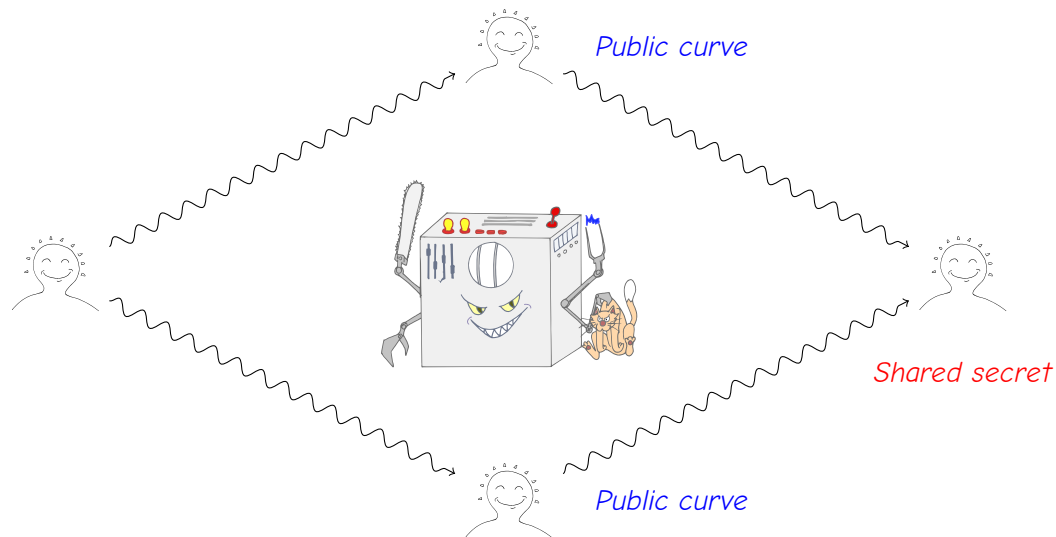
# Basically every isogeny-based key-exchange...



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# Hard Homogeneous Spaces<sup>1</sup>

## Principal Homogeneous Space

$\mathcal{G} \curvearrowright \mathcal{E}$ : A (finite) set  $\mathcal{E}$  acted upon by a group  $\mathcal{G}$  faithfully and transitively:

$$\begin{aligned} * : \mathcal{G} \times \mathcal{E} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \\ \mathfrak{g} * E &\longmapsto E' \end{aligned}$$

Compatibility:  $\mathfrak{g}' * (\mathfrak{g} * E) = (\mathfrak{g}'\mathfrak{g}) * E$  for all  $\mathfrak{g}, \mathfrak{g}' \in \mathcal{G}$  and  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ ;

Identity:  $\mathfrak{e} * E = E$  if and only if  $\mathfrak{e} \in \mathcal{G}$  is the identity element;

Transitivity: for all  $E, E' \in \mathcal{E}$  there exist a unique  $\mathfrak{g} \in \mathcal{G}$  such that  $\mathfrak{g} * E' = E$ .

Example: the set of elliptic curves with complex multiplication by  $\mathcal{O}$  is a PHS for the class group  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$ .

---

<sup>1</sup>Couveignes 2006.

# Hard Homogeneous Spaces

## Hard Homogeneous Space (HHS)

A Principal Homogeneous Space  $\mathcal{G} \curvearrowright \mathcal{E}$  such that:

- Evaluating  $E' = g * E$  is **easy**;
- Inverting the action is **hard**.

Discrete logarithms in  $\mathcal{G} = \langle g \rangle$  are easy  $\Leftrightarrow$  there is an effective isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} &\longleftrightarrow \mathcal{G} \\ a &\longmapsto g^a\end{aligned}$$

Then we like to see  $\mathcal{E}$  as an **HHS** for  $\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z}$ :

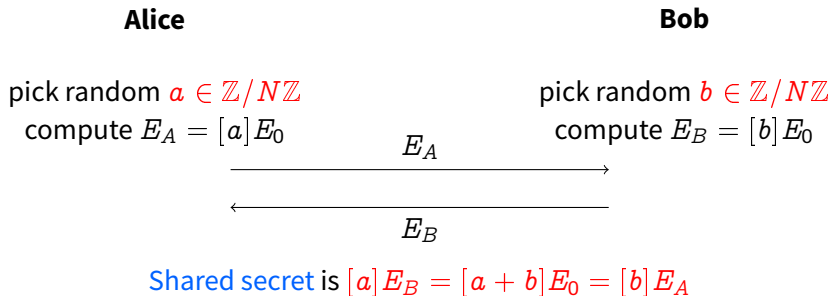
$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z} \times \mathcal{E} &\longrightarrow \mathcal{E} \\ [a]E &\longmapsto g^a * E\end{aligned}$$

**Warning:**  $[a][b]E = [a + b]E$  !!!

# HHS Diffie–Hellman

**Goal:** Alice and Bob have never met before. They are chatting over a public channel, and want to agree on a **shared secret** to start a private conversation.

**Setup:** They agree on a (large) HHS  $\langle g \rangle \subseteq \mathcal{E}$  of order  $N$ .



# HHSDH from complex multiplication

## Obstacles:

- We don't want to wait for a quantum computer for solving discrete logs in  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$ !
- Until then, even the **group size** of  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$  is **unknown**.
- Only ideals of small norm (**isogenies of small degree**) are efficient to evaluate.

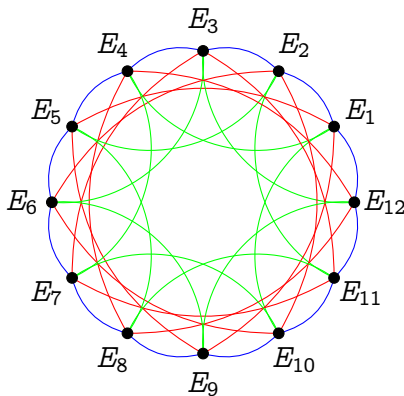
## Solution:

- Restrict to elements of  $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$  of the form

$$\mathfrak{g} = \prod \mathfrak{a}_i^{e_i}$$

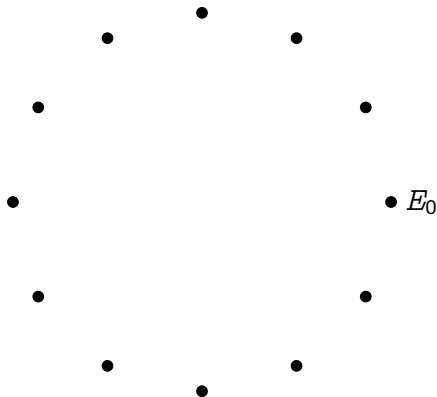
for a basis of  $\mathfrak{a}_i$  of **small norm**.

- Equivalent to doing **isogeny walks** of **smooth degree**.





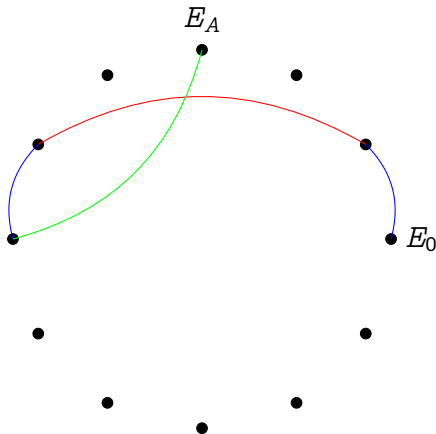
# CSIDH key exchange



## Public parameters:

- A supersingular curve  $E_0/\mathbb{F}_p$ ;
- A set of small prime degree isogenies.

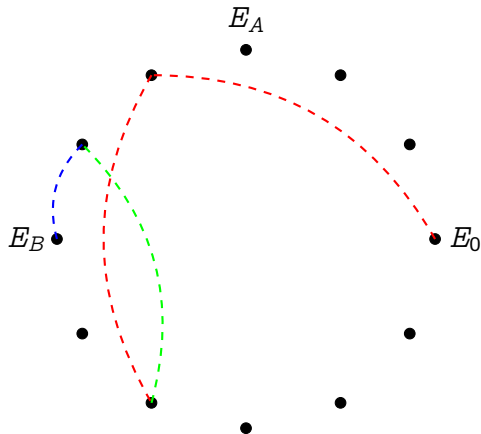
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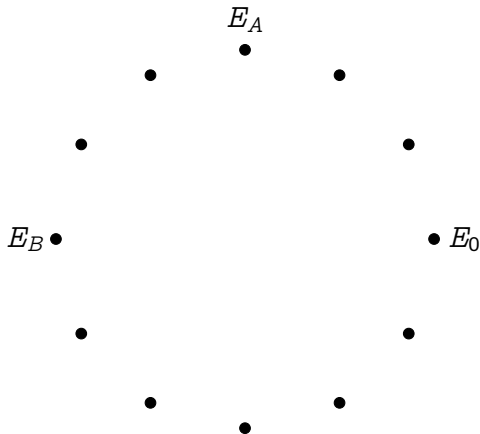
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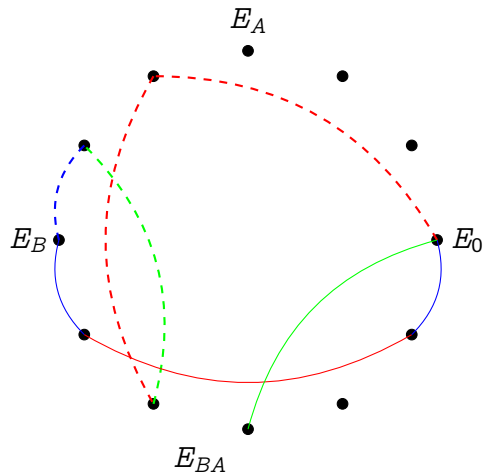
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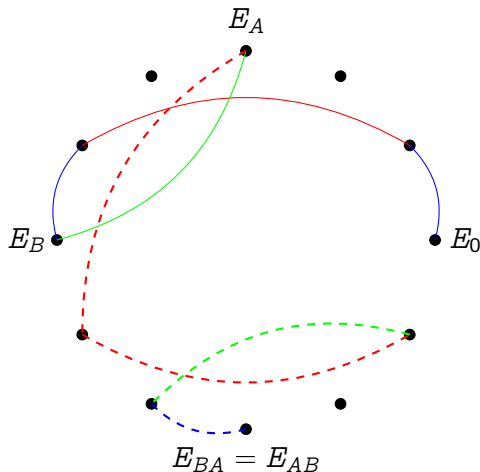
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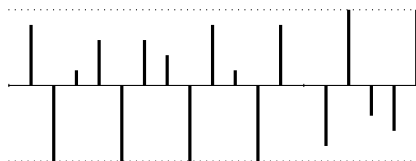


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  - 4 **Alice** repeats her secret walk  $\phi_A$  starting from  $E_B$ .
  - 5 **Bob** repeats his secret walk  $\phi_B$  starting from  $E_A$ .

## CSIDH data flow

**Your secret:** a vector of number of isogeny steps for each degree

$$(5, 1, -4, \dots)$$


**Your public key:** (the  $j$ -invariant of) a supersingular elliptic curve

$j = 0x23baf75419531a44f3b97cc9d8291a275047fcdae0c9a0c0ebb993964f821f2$   
 $0c11058a4200ff38c4a85e208345300033b0d3119ff4a7c1be0acd62a622002a9$

# Quantum security

**Fact:** Shor's algorithm **does not apply** to Diffie-Hellman protocols from **group actions**.

## Subexponential attack

$$\exp(\sqrt{\log p \log \log p})$$

- Reduction to the **hidden shift problem** by evaluating the class group action in **quantum supersposition**<sup>a</sup> (subexponential cost);
- Well known reduction from the hidden shift to the **dihedral (non-abelian) hidden subgroup problem**;
- Kuperberg's algorithm<sup>b</sup> solves the dHSP with a subexponential number of class group evaluations.
- Recent work<sup>c</sup> suggests that  $2^{64}$ -qbit security is achieved somewhere in  $512 < \log p < 1024$ .

<sup>a</sup>Childs, Jao, and Soukharev 2014.

<sup>b</sup>Kuperberg 2005; Regev 2004; Kuperberg 2013.

<sup>c</sup>Bonnetain and Naya-Plasencia 2018; Bonnetain and Schrottenloher 2018; Biasse, Jacobson Jr, and Iezzi 2018; Jao, LeGrow, Leonardi, and Ruiz-Lopez 2018; Bernstein, Lange, Martindale, and Panny 2018.



# Key exchange with supersingular curves (2011)

**Good news:** there is no action of a commutative class group.

**Bad news:** there is no action of a commutative class group.

**Idea:** Let **Alice** and **Bob** walk in two different isogeny graphs on the same vertex set.

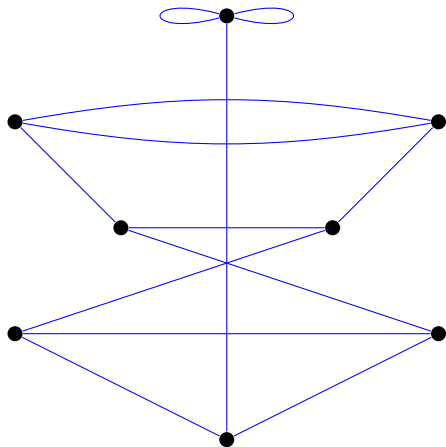


Figure: 2- and 3-isogeny graphs on  $\mathbb{F}_{97^2}$ .

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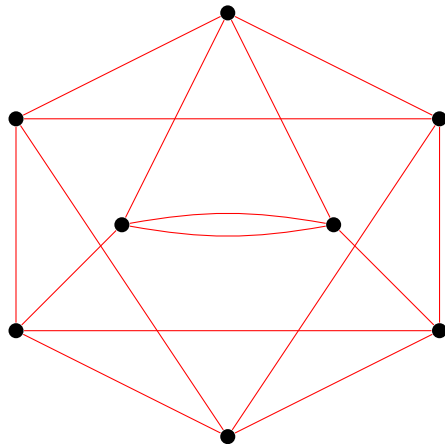


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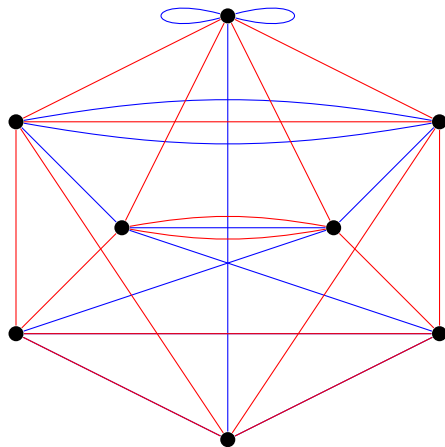


Figure: 2- and 3-isogeny graphs on  $\mathbb{F}_{97^2}$ .

# Key exchange with supersingular curves (2011)

- Fix small primes  $\ell_A, \ell_B$ ;
- No canonical labeling of the  $\ell_A$ - and  $\ell_B$ -isogeny graphs; however...

**Walk of length  $e_A$**

=

**Isogeny of degree  $\ell_A^{e_A}$**

=

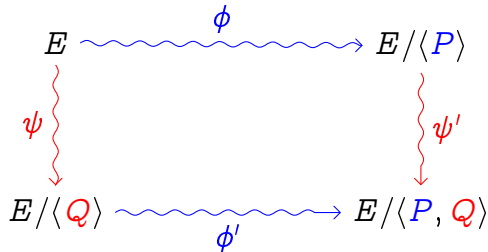
**Kernel  $\langle P \rangle \subset E[\ell_A^{e_A}]$**

$$\ker \phi = \langle P \rangle \subset E[\ell_A^{e_A}]$$

$$\ker \psi = \langle Q \rangle \subset E[\ell_B^{e_B}]$$

$$\ker \phi' = \langle \psi(P) \rangle$$

$$\ker \psi' = \langle \phi(Q) \rangle$$



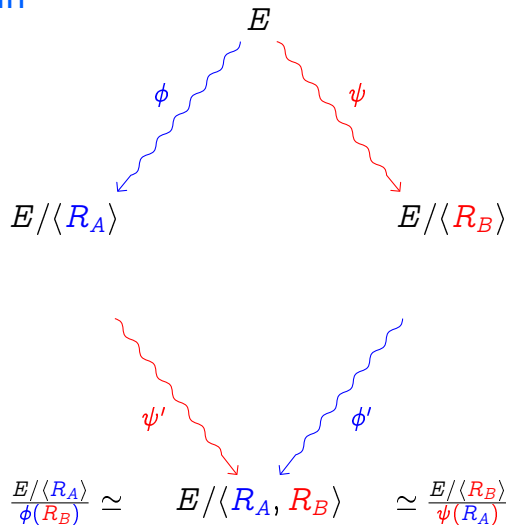
# Supersingular Isogeny Diffie-Hellman<sup>2</sup>

## Parameters:

- Prime  $p$  such that  $p + 1 = \ell_A^a \ell_B^b$ ;
- Supersingular curve  $E \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(p+1)\mathbb{Z})^2$ ;
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## Secret data:

- $R_A = m_A P_A + n_A Q_A$ ,
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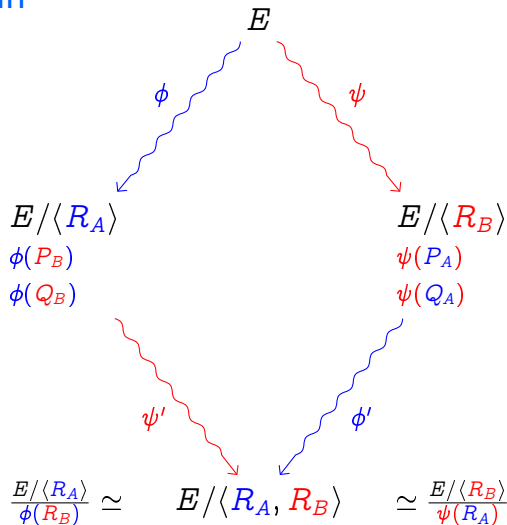
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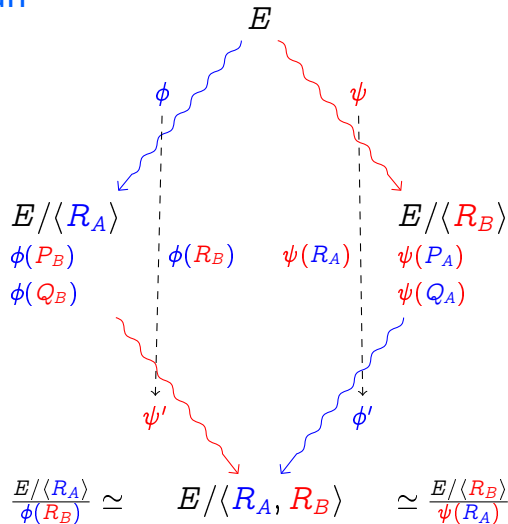
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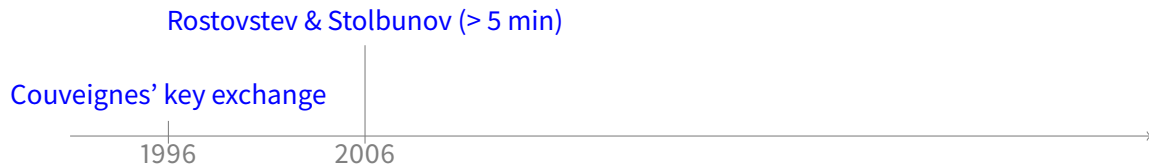
# From 10 minutes to 10ms in 20 years

Couveignes' key exchange

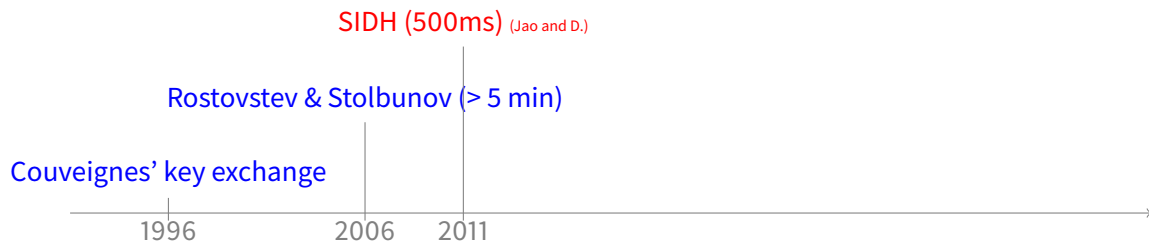




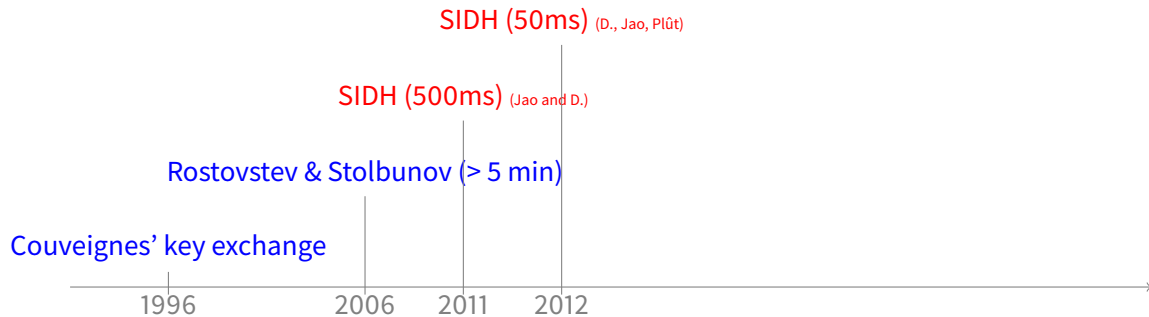
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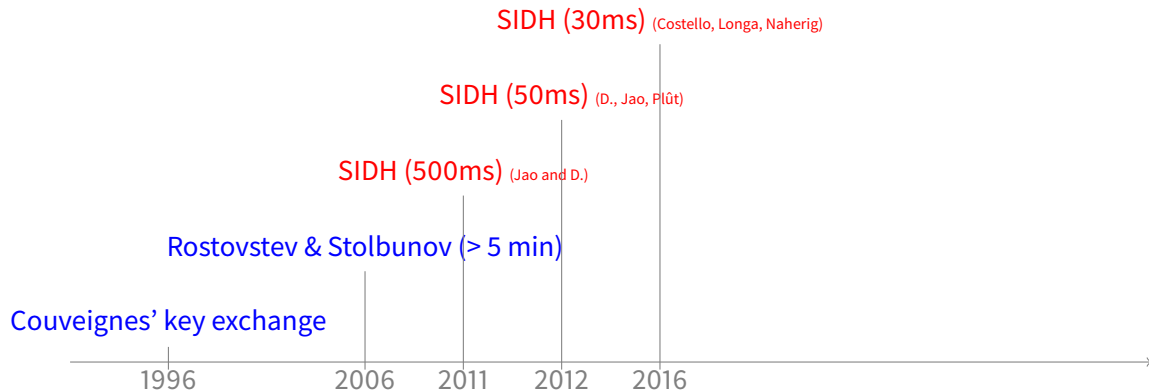
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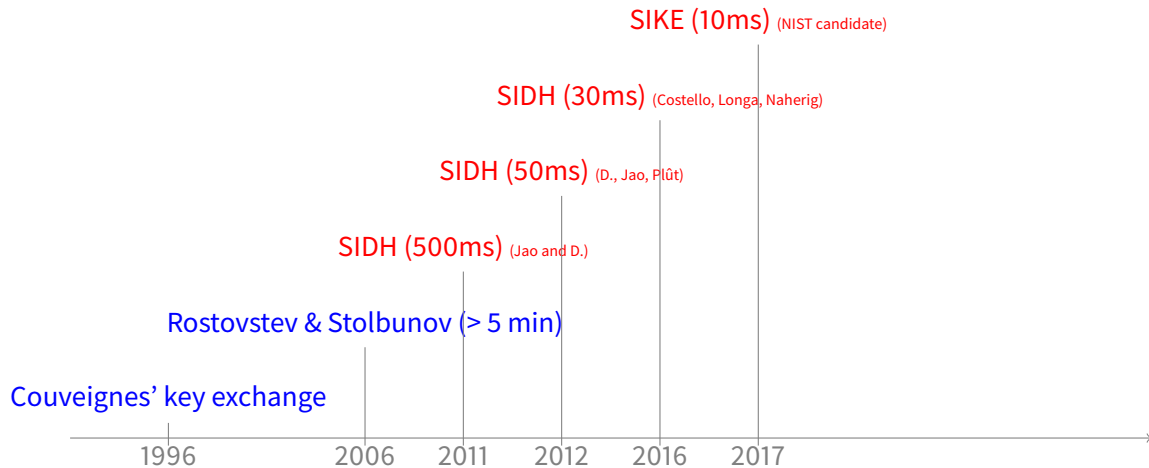
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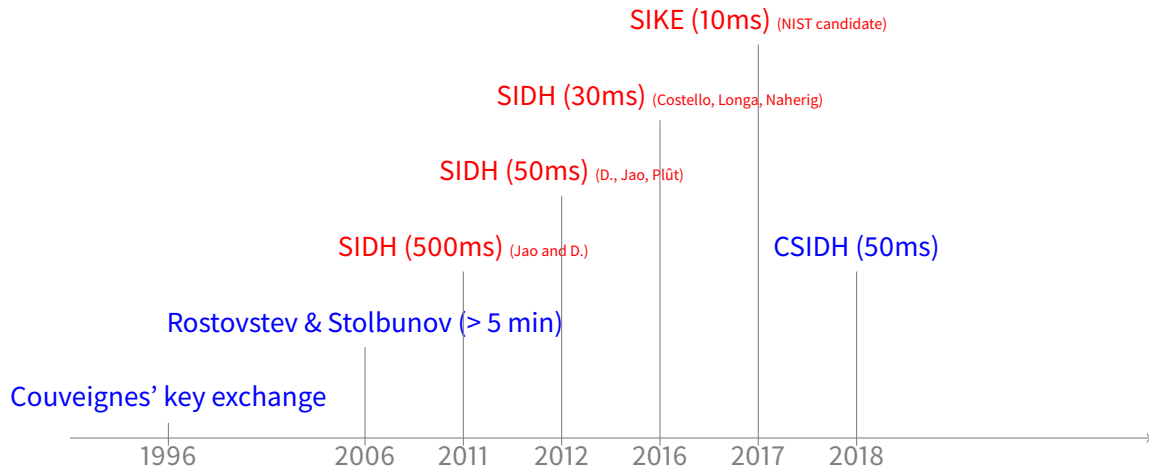
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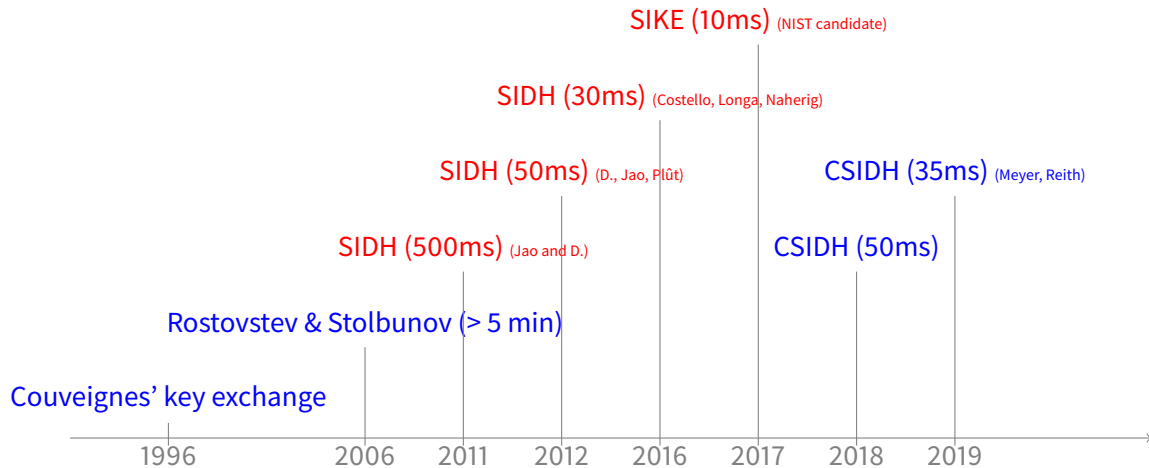
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## CSIDH vs SIDH

	CSIDH	SIDH
Speed (on x64 arch., NIST 1)	~ 35ms	~ 6ms
Public key size (NIST 1)	64B	346B
Key compression		
↳ speed		~ 11ms
↳ size		209B
Submitted to NIST	no	yes
TRL	4	6
Best classical attack	$p^{1/4}$	$p^{1/4} (p^{3/8})$
Best quantum attack	$\tilde{O}\left(3^{\sqrt{\log_3 p}}\right)$	$p^{1/6} (p^{3/8})$
Key size scales	quadratically	linearly
CPA security	yes	yes
CCA security	yes	Fujisaki-Okamoto
Constant time	it's complicated	yes
Non-interactive key exchange	yes	no
Signatures	short but (slow   do not scale)	big and slow



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# Why prove a secret isogeny?

Public: Curves  $E, E'$

Secret: An isogeny walk  $E \rightarrow E'$

## Why?

- For interactive identification;
- For signing messages;
- For validating public keys (esp. SIDH);
- More...

## Some properties

	Zero knowledge		Quantum resistance	Succinctness
	Statistical	Computational		
CSIDH	✓		✓ / sort of	
SIDH		✓	✓	
Pairings				✓

# Security assumptions in Isogeny-based Cryptography

## Isogeny walk problem

**Input** Two isogenous elliptic curves  $E, E'$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

**Output** A path  $E \rightarrow E'$  in an isogeny graph.

## SIDH problem (1)

**Input** Elliptic curves  $E, E'$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , isogenous of degree  $\ell_A^{e_A}$ .

**Output** The unique path  $E \rightarrow E'$  of length  $e_A$  in the  $\ell_A$ -isogeny graph.

## SIDH problem (2)

**Input**

- Elliptic curves  $E, E'$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , isogenous of degree  $\ell_A^{e_A}$ ;
- The action of the isogeny on  $E[\ell_B^{e_B}]$ .

**Output** The unique path  $E \rightarrow E'$  of length  $e_A$  in the  $\ell_A$ -isogeny graph.

# A $\Sigma$ -protocol from Diffie–Hellman<sup>3</sup>

- A key pair  $(s, g^s)$ ;

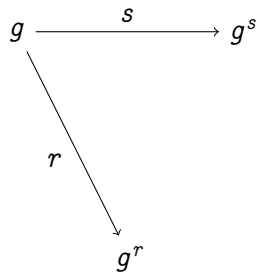
$$g \xrightarrow{s} g^s$$

---

<sup>3</sup>Kids, do not try this at home! Use Schnorr!

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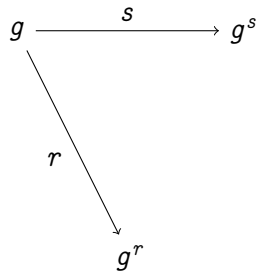


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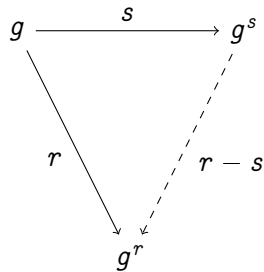


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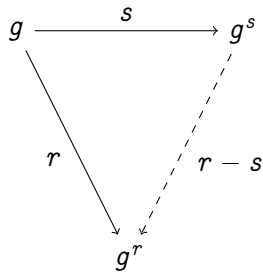
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- Respond with  $c = r - b \cdot s \bmod \#G$ ;



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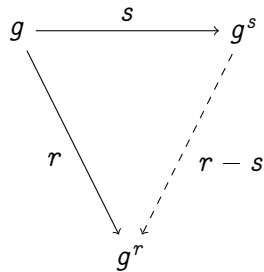
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### Zero-knowledge

Does not leak because:

$c$  is uniformly distributed and independent from  $s$ .



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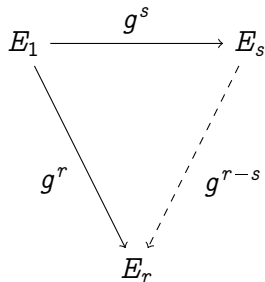
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- Commit to a random element  $g^r$ ;
- Challenge with bit  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ ;
- Respond with  $c = r - b \cdot s \bmod \#G$ ;
- Verify that  $g^c(g^s)^b = g^r$ .

### Zero-knowledge

Does not leak because:

$c$  is uniformly distributed and independent from  $s$ .

Unlike Schnorr, compatible with  
group action Diffie–Hellman.

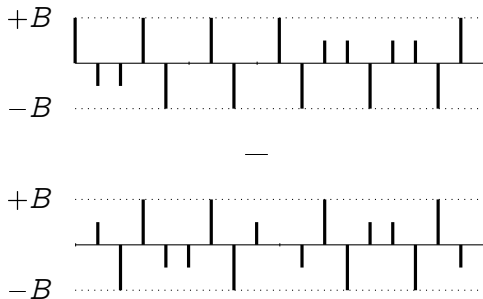


<sup>3</sup>Kids, do not try this at home! Use Schnorr!

# The trouble with groups of unknown structure

In CSIDH secrets look like:  $g^{\vec{s}} = g_2^{s_2} g_3^{s_3} g_5^{s_5} \dots$

- the elements  $g_i$  are fixed,
- the secret is the exponent vector  $\vec{s} = (s_2, s_3, \dots) \in [-B, B]^n$ ,
- secrets must be sampled in a box  $[-B, B]^n$  “large enough”...



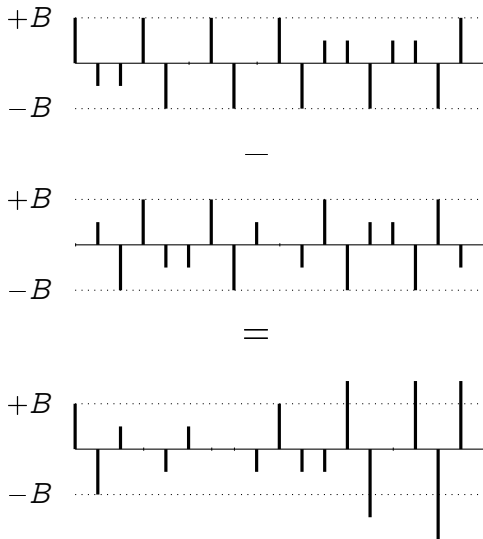
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## The leakage

With  $\vec{s}, \vec{r} \xleftarrow{\$} [-B, B]^n$ , the distribution of  $\vec{r} - \vec{s}$  depends on the long term secret  $\vec{s}$ !



# The two fixes

## Do like the lattice people

SeaSign: D. and Galbraith 2019

- Use Fiat-Shamir with aborts (Lyubashevsky 2009).
  - Huge increase in signature size and time.
- Compromise signature size/time with public key size (still slow).

## Compute the group structure and stop whining

CSI-FiSh: Beullens, Kleinjung and Vercauteren 2019

- Already suggested by Couveignes (1996) and Stolbunov (2006).
- Computationally intensive (subexponential parameter generation).
- Decent parameters, e.g.: 263 bytes, 390 ms, @NIST-1.
  - Technically not post-quantum (signing requires solving ApproxCVP).

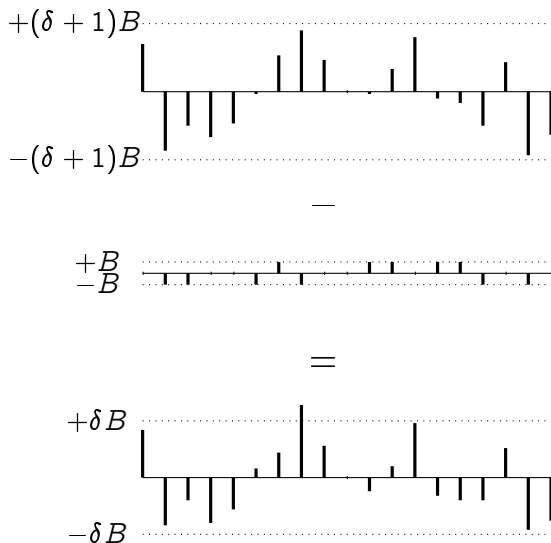
# Rejection sampling

- Sample **long term secret**  $\vec{s}$  in the usual box  $[-B, B]^n$ ,
- Sample **ephemeral**  $\vec{r}$  in a larger box  $[-(\delta + 1)B, (\delta + 1)B]^n$ ,
- Throw away  $\vec{r} - \vec{s}$  if it is out of the box  $[-\delta B, \delta B]^n$ .

## Zero-knowledge

**Theorem:**  $\vec{r} - \vec{s}$  is uniformly distributed in  $[-\delta B, \delta B]^n$ .

**Problem:** set  $\delta$  so that rejection probability is low.



# SeaSign Performance (NIST-1)

	$t = 1$ <b>bit challenges</b>	$t = 16$ <b>bits challenges</b>	<b>PK compression</b>
Sig size	20 KiB	978 B	3136 B
PK size	64 B	4 MiB	32 B
SK size	32 B	16 B	1 MiB
Est. keygen time	30 ms	30 mins	30 mins
Est. sign time	30 hours	6 mins	6 mins
Est. verify time	10 hours	2 mins	2 mins
Asymptotic sig size	$O(\lambda^2 \log(\lambda))$	$O(\lambda t \log(\lambda))$	$O(\lambda^2 t)$

## Speed/size compromises by Decru, Panny and Vercauteren 2019

Sig size	36 KiB	2 KiB	—
Est. sign time	30 mins	80 s	—
Est. verify time	20 mins	20 s	—

**Table 3.** Parameter choices and benchmark results for the “simple” variant of CSI-FiSh .

$S$	$t$	$k$	$ \mathbf{sk} $	$ \mathbf{pk} $	$ \mathbf{sig} $	KeyGen	Sign	Verify
$2^1$	56	16	16 B	128 B	1880 B	100 ms	2.92 s	2.92 s
$2^2$	38	14	16 B	256 B	1286 B	200 ms	1.98 s	1.97 s
$2^3$	28	16	16 B	512 B	956 B	400 ms	1.48 s	1.48 s
$2^4$	23	13	16 B	1 KB	791 B	810 ms	1.20 s	1.19 s
$2^6$	16	16	16 B	4 KB	560 B	3.3 s	862 ms	859 ms
$2^8$	13	11	16 B	16 KB	461 B	13 s	671 ms	670 ms
$2^{10}$	11	7	16 B	64 KB	395 B	52 s	569 ms	567 ms
$2^{12}$	9	11	16 B	256 KB	329 B	3.5 m	471 ms	469 ms
$2^{15}$	7	16	16 B	2 MB	263 B	28 m	395 ms	393 ms

<sup>4</sup>Beullens, Kleinjung, and Vercauteren 2019.



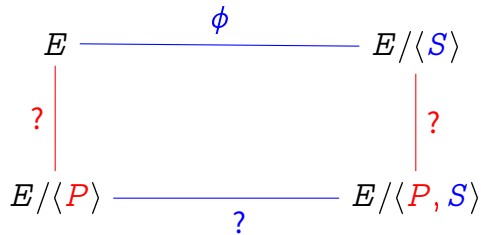
## A $\Sigma$ -protocol for SIDH

$$E \xrightarrow{\phi} E/\langle S \rangle$$

$\frac{1}{3}$ -soundness

Secret  $\phi$  of degree  $\ell_A^{e_A}$ .

## A $\Sigma$ -protocol for SIDH

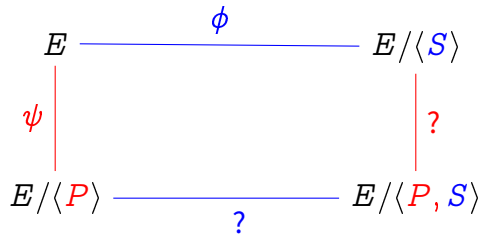


$\frac{1}{3}$ -soundness

Secret  $\phi$  of degree  $\ell_A^{e_A}$ .

- 1 Choose a random point  $P \in E[\ell_B^{e_B}]$ , compute the diagram;
- 2 Publish the curves  $E/\langle \textcolor{red}{P} \rangle$  and  $E/\langle \textcolor{red}{P}, \textcolor{blue}{S} \rangle$ ;

# A $\Sigma$ -protocol for SIDH

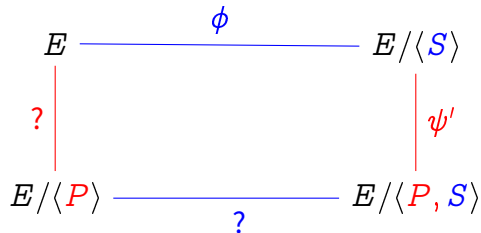


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- 3 The verifier challenges to reveal **one out of the 3** sides
  - ▶ Isogenies  $\psi, \psi'$  (degree  $\ell_B^{e_B}$ ) unrelated to secret;

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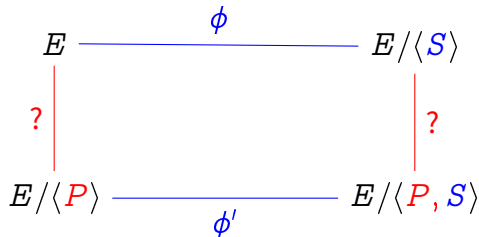


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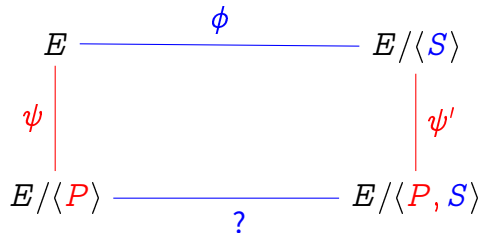


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## Improving to $\frac{1}{2}$ -soundness

- Reveal  $\psi, \psi'$  simultaneously;
- Reveals action of  $\phi$  on  $E[\ell_B^{e_B}] \Rightarrow$  Stronger security assumption.

# SIDH signature performance (NIST-1)

According to Yoo, Azarderakhsh, Jalali, Jao and Vladimir Soukharev 2017:

Size:  $\approx 100KB$ ,

Time: seconds.

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Time: seconds.

### Galbraith, Petit and Silva 2017

- Concept similar to CSI-FiSh: exploits known structure of endomorphism ring;
- Statistical zero knowledge (under heuristic assumptions);
- Based on the generic isogeny walk problem (requires special starting curve, though);
- Size/performance comparable to Yoo *et al.* (and possibly slower).



# Weil pairing and isogenies

## 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

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

# Pairing proofs: what for?

- Non-interactive, not post-quantum, not zero knowledge;

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- Non-interactive, not post-quantum, not zero knowledge;
- Useful for (partially) validating SIDH public keys;
- **Succinct**: proof size, verification time independent of walk length!

A dark grey sports car, possibly a Lamborghini, is parked on a city street at night. The car is sleek and low-profile, with black wheels. In the background, there are city buildings and streetlights. The sky is filled with many floating Bitcoin coins, suggesting a theme of cryptocurrency. The text "#BLOCKCHAIN" is overlaid in large white letters across the middle of the image.

#BLOCKCHAIN

# Distributed lottery

Participants **A**, **B**, ..., **Z** want to agree on a random winning ticket.

## Flawed protocol

- Each participant  $x$  broadcasts a random string  $s_x$ ;
- Winning ticket is  $H(s_A, \dots, s_Z)$ .

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## Fixes

- Make the hash function **slooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooow**;

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## Fixes

- Make the hash function **slooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooow**;
- Make it possible to verify  $w = H(s_A, \dots, s_Z)$  **fast**.



# Verifiable Delay Functions (Boneh, Bonneau, Bünz, Fisch 2018)

## Wanted

Function (family)  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  s.t.:

- Evaluating  $f(x)$  takes **long time**:
  - ▶ **uniformly** long time,
  - ▶ on almost all random inputs  $x$ ,
  - ▶ even after having seen many values of  $f(x')$ ,
  - ▶ even given **massive number of processors**;
- Verifying  $y = f(x)$  is **efficient**:
  - ▶ ideally, exponential separation between evaluation and verification.

# Sequentiality

Ideal functionality:

$$y = f(x) = \underbrace{H(H(\cdots(H(x))))}_{T \text{ times}}$$

- Sequential assuming hash output “unpredictability”,
- but how do you verify?

# Isogeny VDF ( $\mathbb{F}_p$ -version)

## (Trusted) Setup

- Pairing friendly supersingular curve  $E/\mathbb{F}_p$  with unknown endomorphism ring
- Isogeny  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$  of degree  $2^T$ ,
- Point  $P \in E[(N, \pi - 1)]$ , image  $\phi(P)$ .

## Evaluation

Input: random  $Q \in E'[(N, \pi + 1)]$ ,

Output:  $\hat{\phi}(Q)$ .

## Verification

$$e_N(P, \hat{\phi}(Q)) \stackrel{?}{=} e_N(\phi(P), Q).$$


# Conclusion

- Repeat with me: I need isogeny-based crypto!
- ...
- Different isogeny graphs enable different styles of proofs, different security assumptions.
- Post-quantum isogeny signatures are still far from practical.
- Practical isogeny signatures do exist (CSI-FiSh); you can start using them now if you are an isogeny hippie, but they do not scale.
- Pairing-based proofs are usable, but not interesting for signatures: look into succinctness, instead!
- Proofs can be chained easily: useful for multi-party supersingular curve generation (work in progress with J. Burdges).



# Thank you

<https://defeo.lu/>

 @luca\_defeo

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