

# Asymmetric Cryptography: A Deep Dive

Eli Holderness — [@eli.holderness.dev](https://eli.holderness.dev) — they/them/theirs

# Asymmetric Cryptography: A Deep Dive

Eli Holderness — [@eli.holderness.dev](https://eli.holderness.dev) — they/them/theirs

Eli (pronounced /'i:lai/) is a research software advocate, recovering mathematician, and audience participator.

They like people, the web, and learning weird facts about computers.



# Agenda

# Agenda

## 1. Brief history

# Agenda

1. Brief history
2. How RSA works

# Agenda

1. Brief history
2. How RSA works
3. How ECC works

# Agenda

1. Brief history
2. How RSA works
3. How ECC works
4. QC & Shor's Algorithms



# Agenda

1. Brief history
2. How RSA works
3. How ECC works
4. QC & Shor's Algorithms
5. What next?

1

# A brief history of cryptography

# NDC is great!

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q

# TJI oy mxkgz!

# NDC is great!

+6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17

# TJI oy mxkgz!

NDCISGREAT

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

NDCISGREAT

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

+

PRIVATEKEY

NDCISGREAT

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

+

+

PRIVATEKEY

16 18 9 22 1 20 5 11 5 25

NDCISGREAT

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

+

+

PRIVATEKEY

16 18 9 22 1 20 5 11 5 25

=

30 22 12 31 20 27 23 16 6 45



NDCISGREAT

+

PRIVATEKEY

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

+

16 18 9 22 1 20 5 11 5 25

=

4 22 12 5 20 1 23 16 6 19

NDCISGREAT

+

PRIVATEKEY

=

DVLETAWPFS

14 4 3 9 19 7 18 5 1 20

+

16 18 9 22 1 20 5 11 5 25

=

4 22 12 5 20 1 23 16 6 19

symmetric cryptography  
requires both parties to know  
a specific secret

2

# RSA & group theory

# RSA cryptosystem

# RSA cryptosystem

published 'officially' in 1977 by Rivest, Shamir  
and Adleman

# RSA cryptosystem

published 'officially' in 1977 by Rivest, Shamir  
and Adleman

also developed independently in 1973 by  
Clifford Cocks at GCHQ

# RSA cryptosystem

published 'officially' in 1977 by Rivest, Shamir  
and Adleman

also developed independently in 1973 by  
Clifford Cocks at GCHQ

security based on the difficulty of factoring  
large numbers  $N = pq$  where  $p, q$  prime



**worked example with  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$**

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$a \equiv b \pmod{N}$$

when

$$a = b + kN \text{ for some integer } k$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

We need to know  $\lambda(N)$ , the smallest number where  
 $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod N$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144$$

We need to know  $\lambda(N)$ , the smallest number where  
 $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

$$\lambda(N) = \text{lcm}(\lambda(p), \lambda(q)) = \text{lcm}(p-1, q-1) = \text{lcm}(16, 18) = 144$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144$$

We need to know  $\lambda(N)$ , the smallest number where  
 $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod N$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

$$\lambda(N) = \text{lcm}(\lambda(p), \lambda(q)) = \text{lcm}(p-1, q-1) = \text{lcm}(16, 18) = 144$$

Choose  $e$  between 2 and  $N$  coprime to  $N$ ; let's pick 5

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29$$

We need to know  $\lambda(N)$ , the smallest number where  
 $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

$$\lambda(N) = \text{lcm}(\lambda(p), \lambda(q)) = \text{lcm}(p-1, q-1) = \text{lcm}(16, 18) = 144$$

Choose  $e$  between 2 and  $N$  coprime to  $N$ ; let's pick 5

Find  $d$  such that  $d * e \equiv 1 \pmod{\lambda(N)}$ ; this is 29

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29$$

Our public key is  $(N, e) = (323, 5)$  and our private key is  $d = 29$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29$$

Our public key is  $(N, e) = (323, 5)$  and our private key is  $d = 29$

Someone wants to send us the message 14, 4, 3



**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29$$

Our public key is  $(N, e) = (323, 5)$  and our private key is  $d = 29$

Someone wants to send us the message 14, 4, 3

To encrypt a number, they raise it to the power of  $e = 5$ :

$$14^5, 4^5, 3^5 = 537824, 1024, 243$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

Our public key is  $(N, e) = (323, 5)$  and our private key is  $d = 29$

Someone wants to send us the message 14, 4, 3

To encrypt a number, they raise it to the power of  $e = 5$ :

$$14^5, 4^5, 3^5 = 537824, 1024, 243$$

Then take the modulus of  $N$ :

$$14^5, 4^5, 3^5 \equiv 29, 55, 243 \pmod{N}$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$\lambda(N) = 144$        $e = 5; d = 29$        $m = (29, 55, 243)$

We received the message (29, 55, 243)

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$\lambda(N) = 144$        $e = 5; d = 29$        $m = (29, 55, 243)$

We received the message (29, 55, 243)

Decode by raising each number to the power of  $d = 29$ ,  
then taking the modulus of  $N$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

We received the message (29, 55, 243)

Decode by raising each number to the power of  $d = 29$ ,  
then taking the modulus of  $N$

$$29^{29}, 55^{29}, 243^{29} \equiv 14, 4, 3 \pmod{N}$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

This works because  $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod N$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

This works because  $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

so  $a^{\lambda(N)+1} \equiv a \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$



**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

This works because  $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

so  $a^{\lambda(N)+1} \equiv a \pmod{N}$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

$$a^{\lambda(N)+1} = a^{145} = a^5 \times^{29} = (a^5)^{29}$$

**worked example with**  $N = 323 = 17 * 19$

$$\lambda(N) = 144 \quad e = 5; d = 29 \quad m = (29, 55, 243)$$

This works because  $a^{\lambda(N)} \equiv 1 \pmod N$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

so  $a^{\lambda(N)+1} \equiv a \pmod N$  for every  $a$  coprime to  $N$

$$a^{\lambda(N)+1} = a^{145} = a^5 \times^{29} = (a^5)^{29}$$

So  $(a^5)^{29} \equiv a \pmod N$  and we can recover the original message from the encrypted intermediate

# limitations & considerations

## limitations & considerations

requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

## limitations & considerations

requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

if  $e$  is small enough that  $M = m^e < N$ , an attacker  
can simply do  $\sqrt[e]{M}$  to recover  $m$

## limitations & considerations

requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

if  $e$  is small enough that  $M = m^e < N$ , an attacker  
can simply do  $\sqrt[e]{M}$  to recover  $m$

$$14^5, 4^5, 3^5 \equiv 29, 55, 243 \pmod{N}$$

## limitations & considerations

requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

if  $e$  is small enough that  $M = m^e < N$ , an attacker  
can simply do  $\sqrt[e]{M}$  to recover  $m$

$$14^5, 4^5, 3^5 \equiv 29, 55, 243 \pmod{N}$$



$$\sqrt[5]{243} = 3$$

## limitations & considerations

requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

if  $e$  is small enough that  $M = m^e < N$ , an attacker  
can simply do  $\sqrt[e]{M}$  to recover  $m$



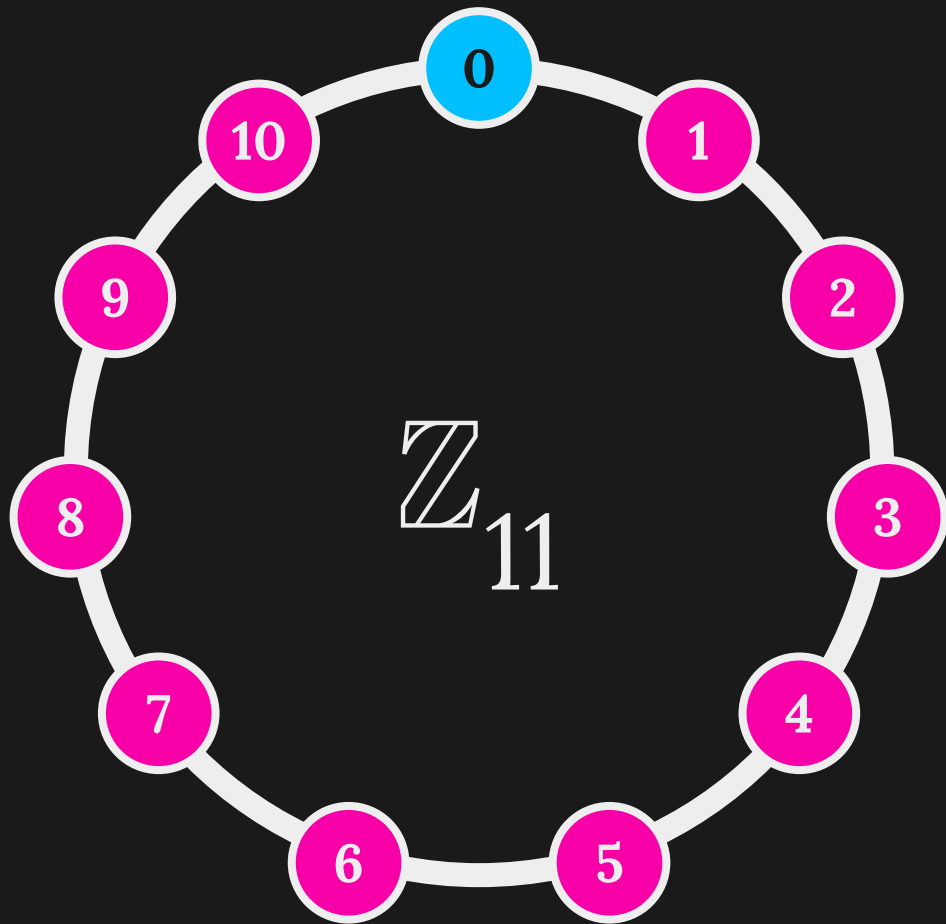
## limitations & considerations

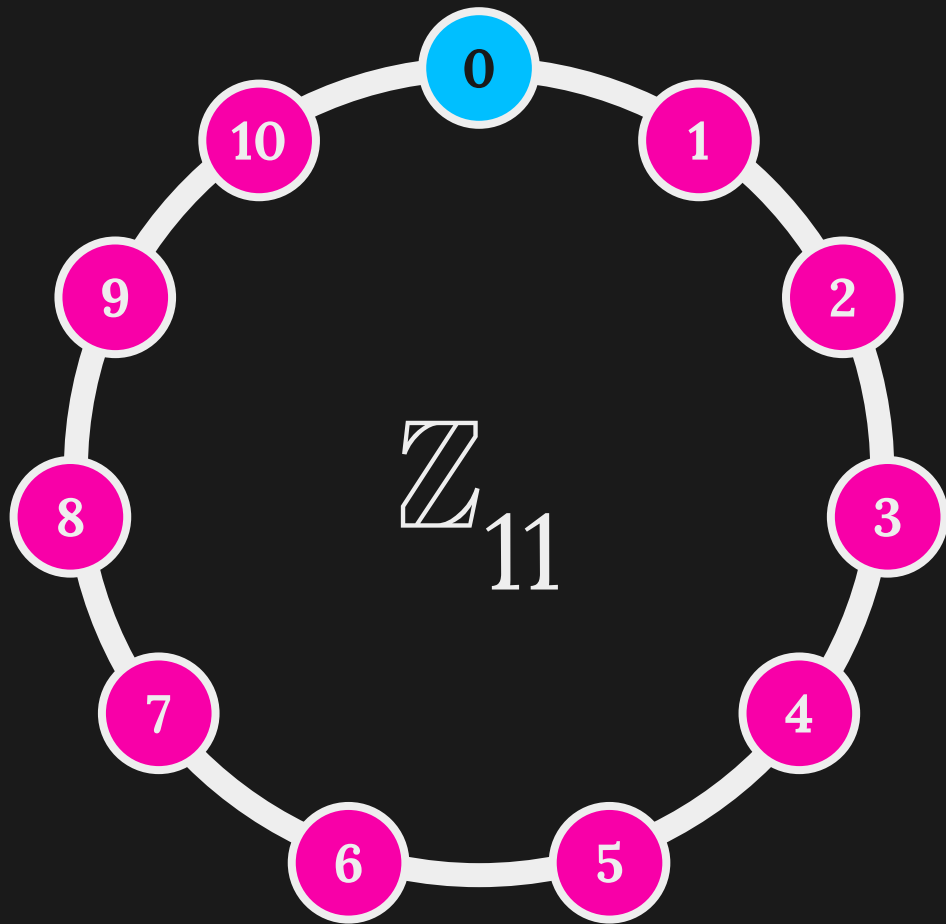
requires large prime numbers, which are expensive to find

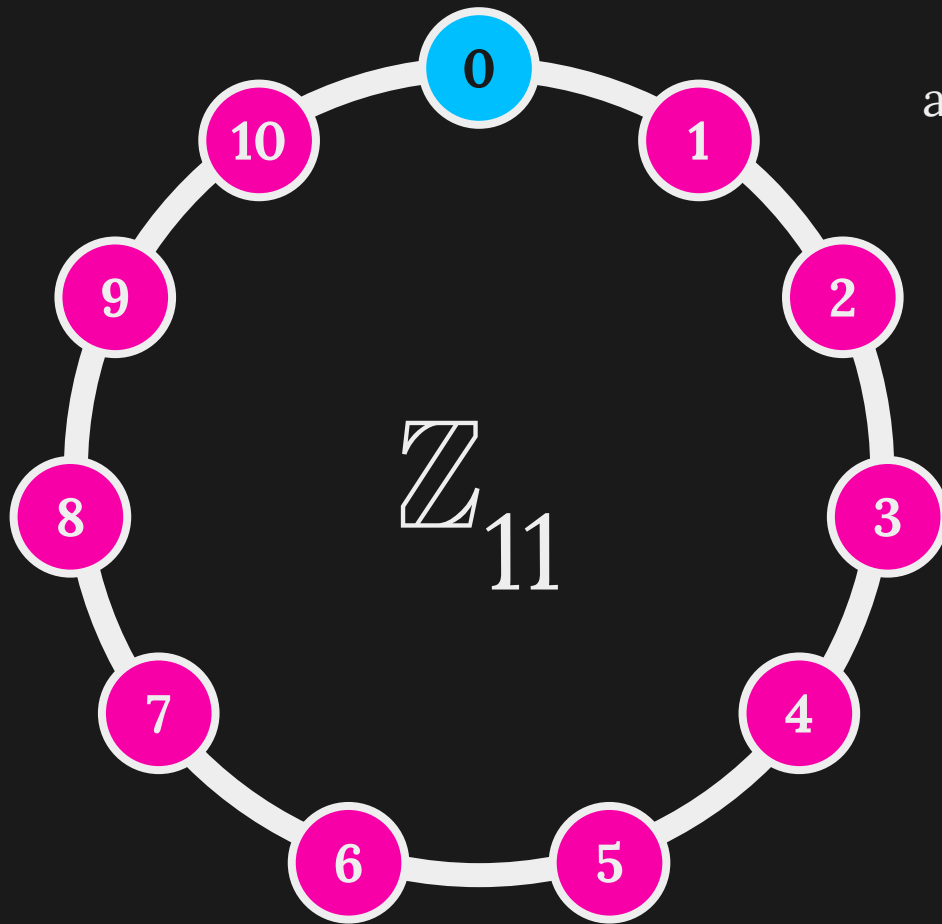
if  $e$  is small enough that  $M = m^e < N$ , an attacker  
can simply do  $\sqrt[e]{M}$  to recover  $m$

without padding, messages can be vulnerable to  
chosen plaintext attacks

TURKEY TROTS TO WATER GG  
FROM CINCPAC ACTION COM  
THIRD FLEET INFO COMINCH  
CTF SEVENTY-SEVEN X WHERE  
IS RPT WHERE IS TASK FORCE  
THIRTY FOUR RR THE WORLD  
WONDERS

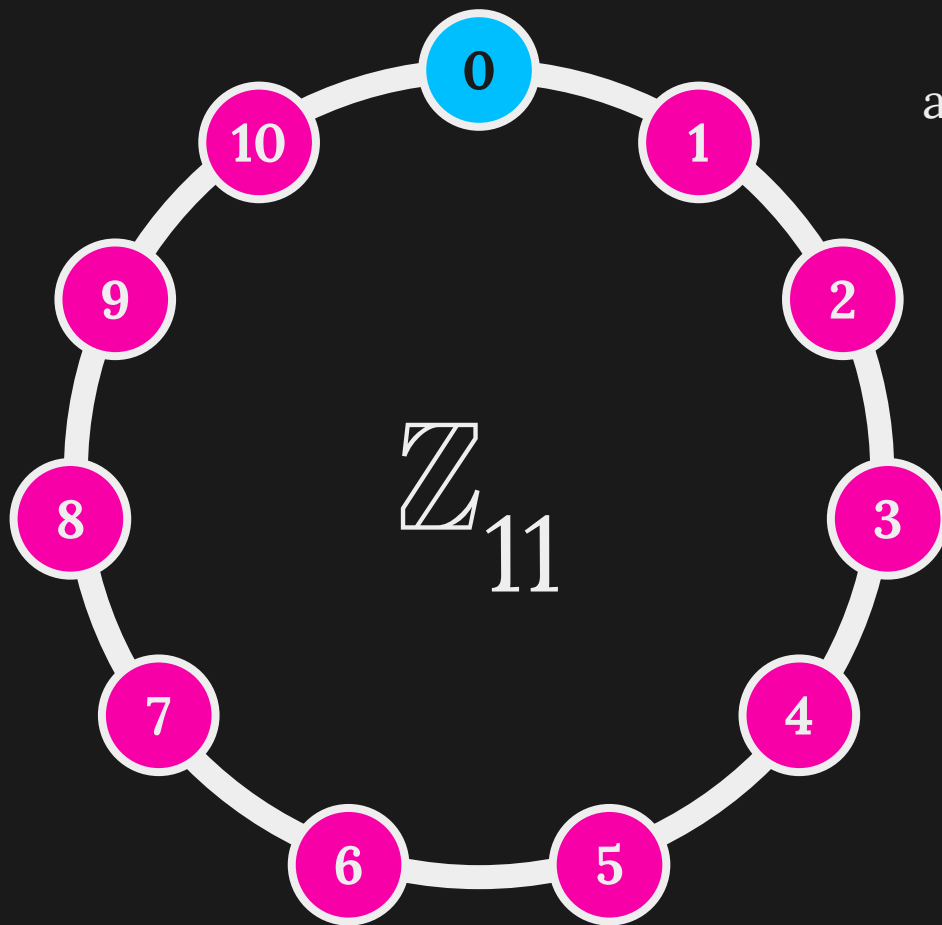






## identity element

adding 0 doesn't change an element

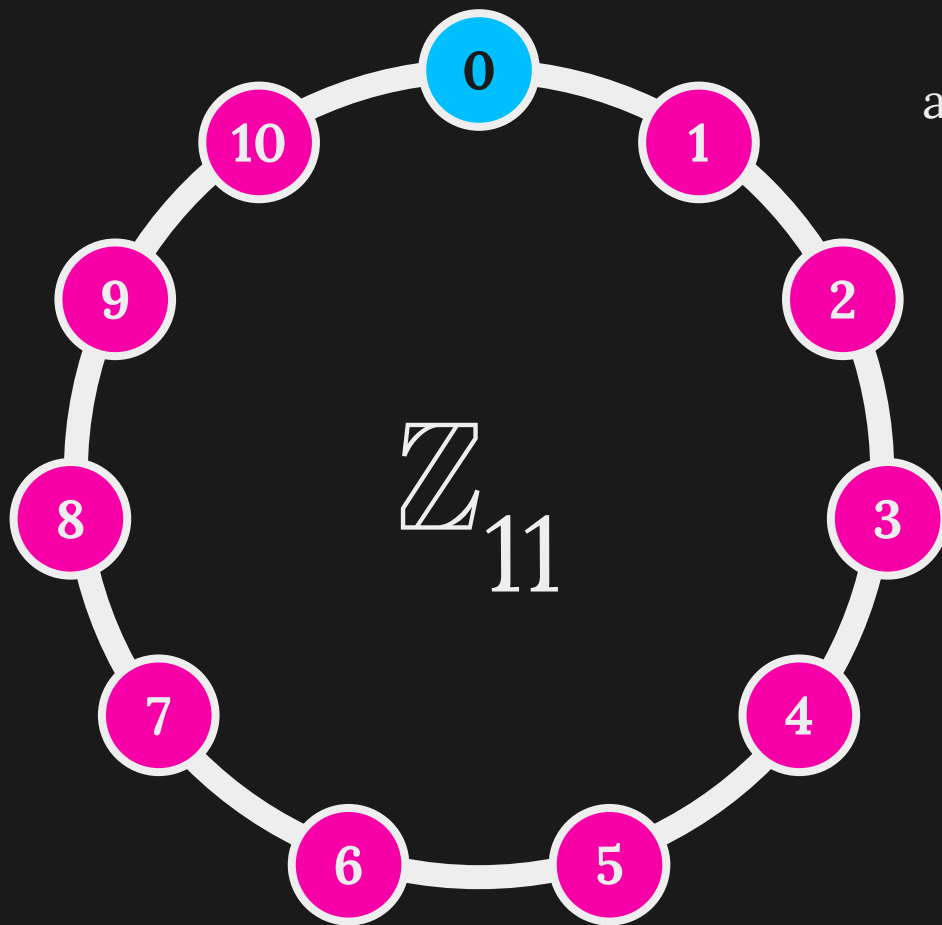


## identity element

adding 0 doesn't change an element

## inverses

for every  $a$  in the group, there's  
a  $b$  that makes  $a + b = 0$  true



## identity element

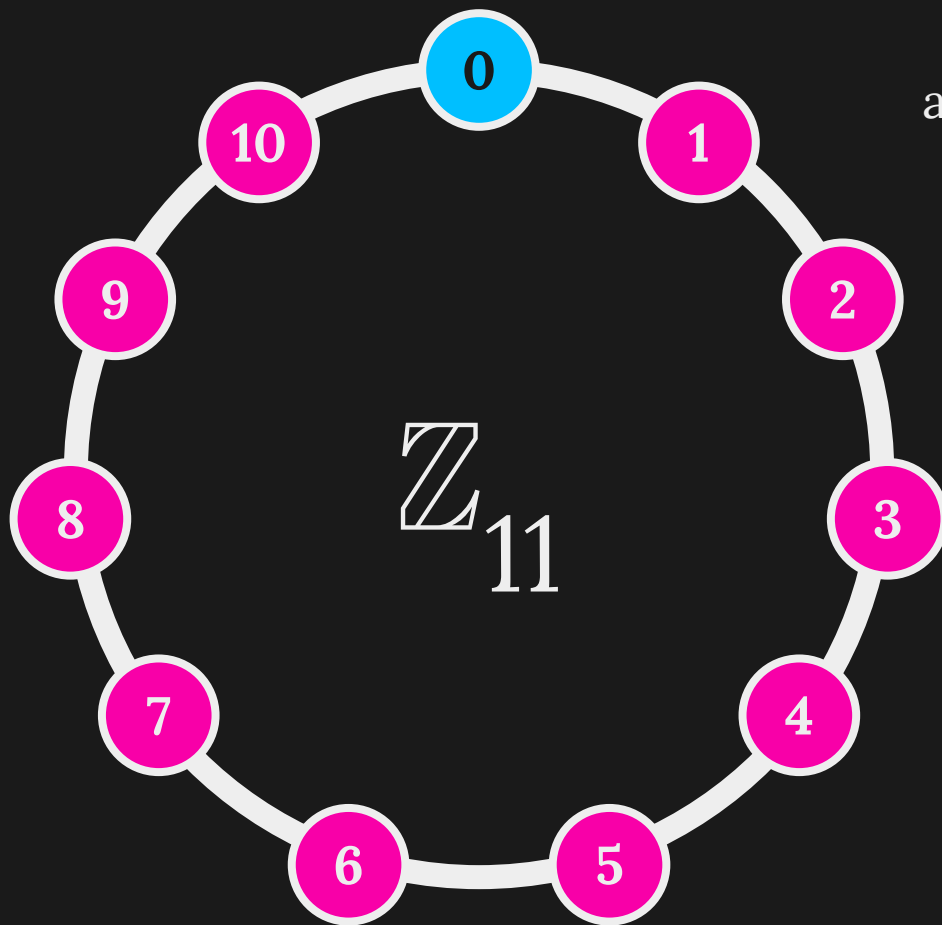
adding 0 doesn't change an element

## inverses

for every  $a$  in the group, there's  
a  $b$  that makes  $a + b = 0$  true

## associativity

$$1 + (4 + 2) = (1 + 4) + 2$$



## identity element

adding 0 doesn't change an element

## inverses

for every  $a$  in the group, there's a  $b$  that makes  $a + b = 0$  true

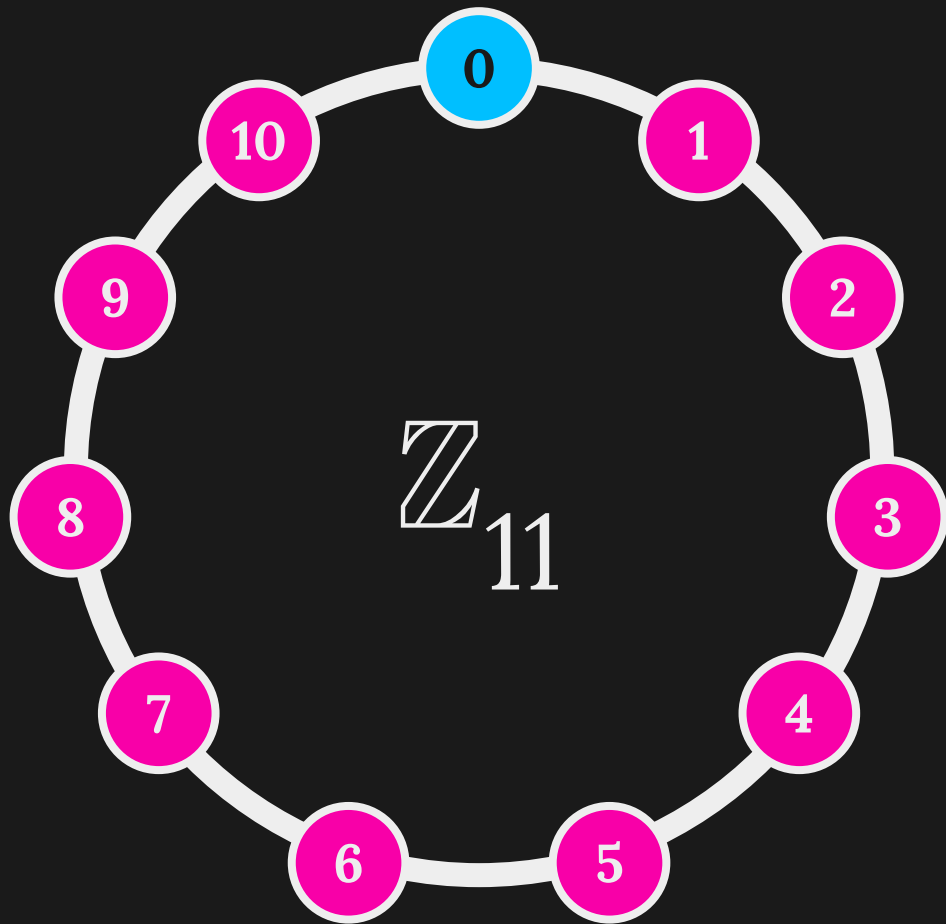
## associativity

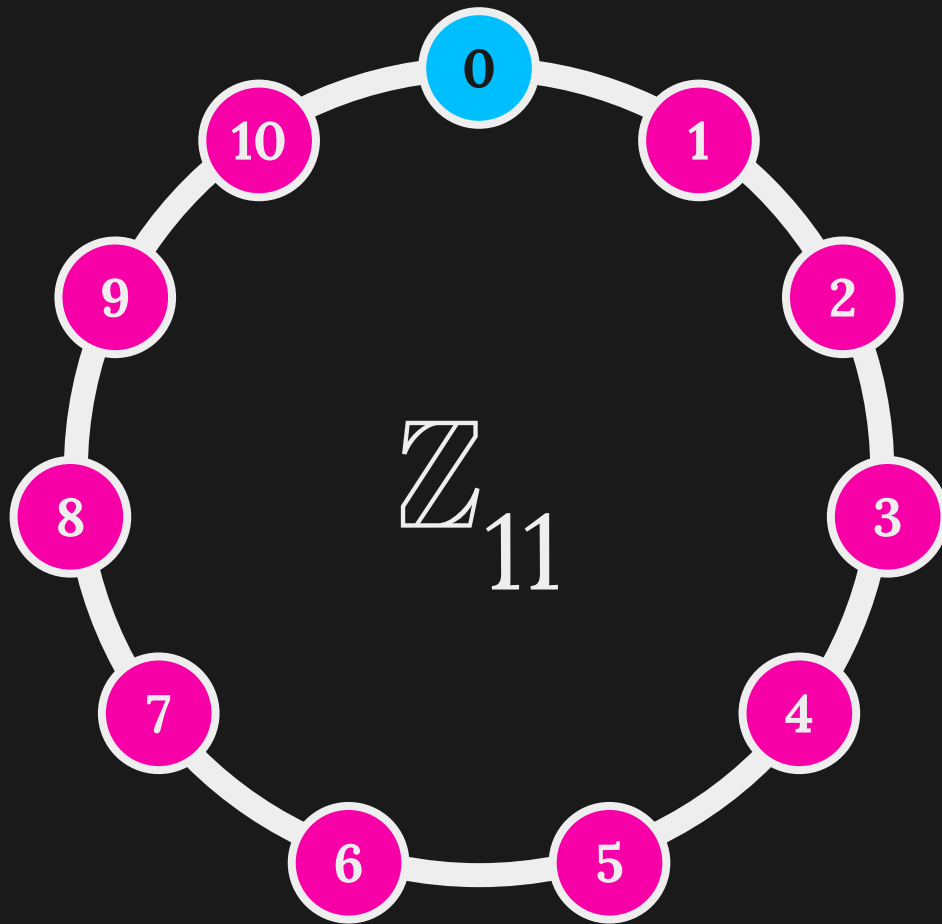
$$1 + (4 + 2) = (1 + 4) + 2$$

## closure

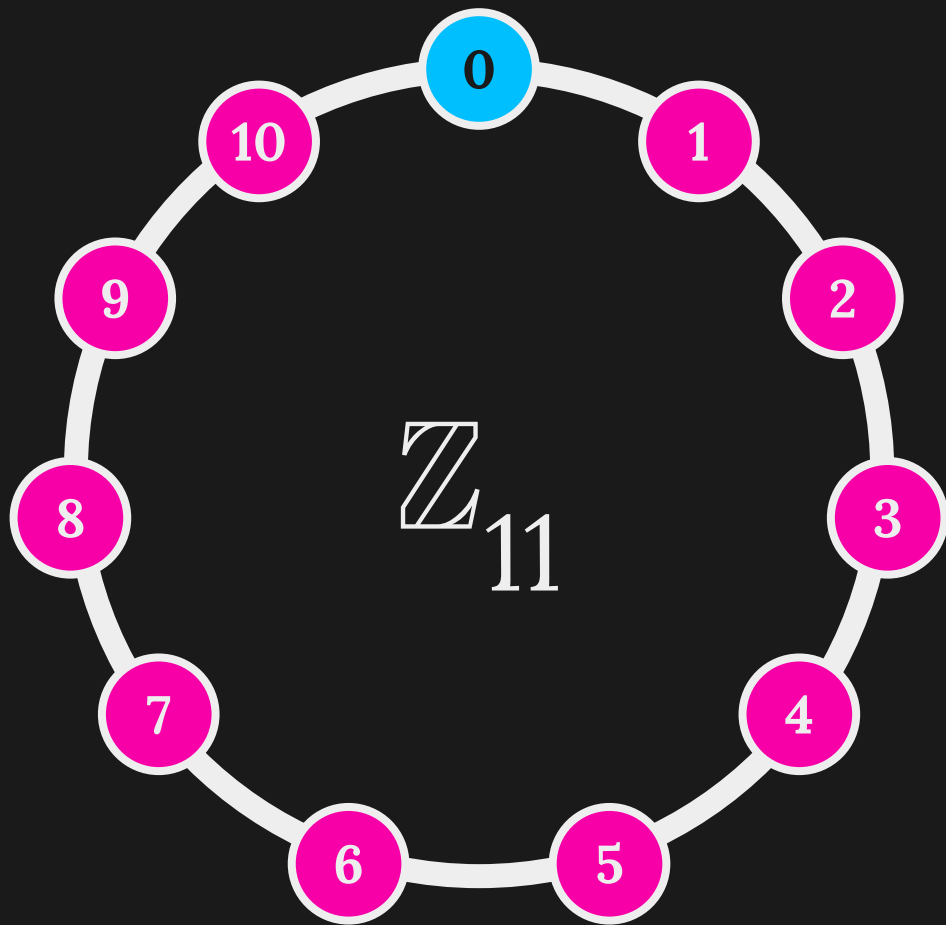
If  $a$  and  $b$  are in the group and  $a + b = c$ , then  $c$  is in the group







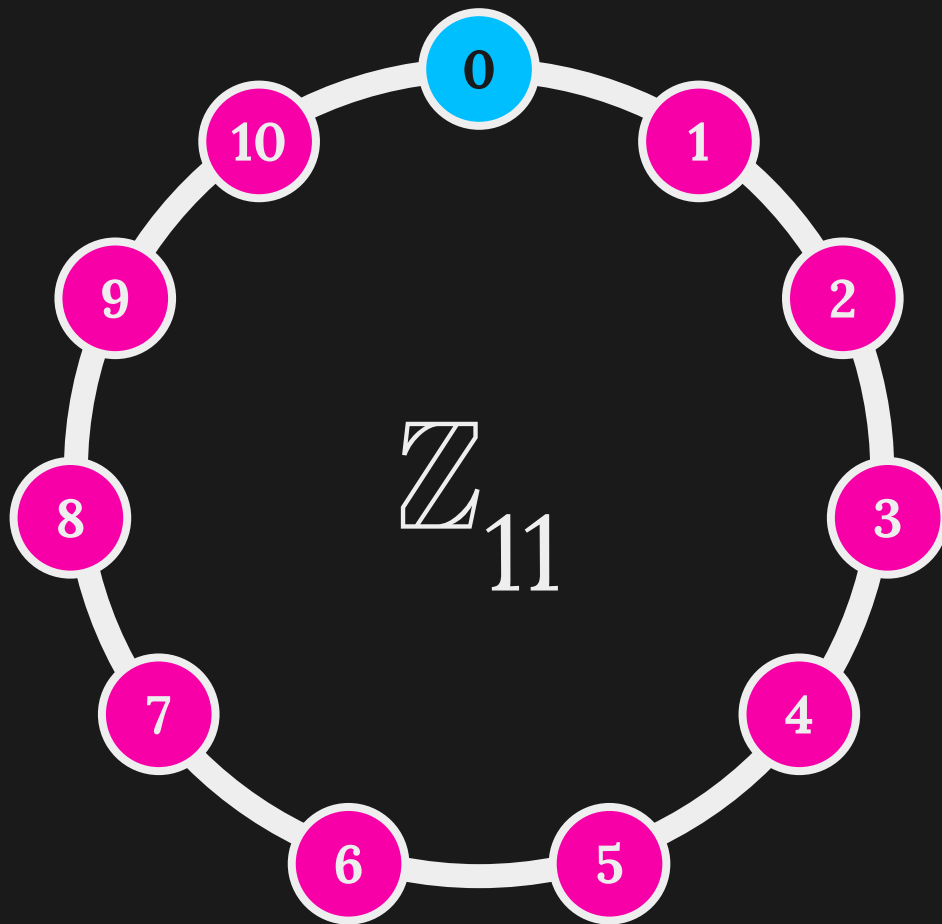
$4 \times 13 = 52$



$$\textcircled{4} \times 13 = 52$$

$$= (4 \times 11) + 8$$

$$= \textcircled{8}$$

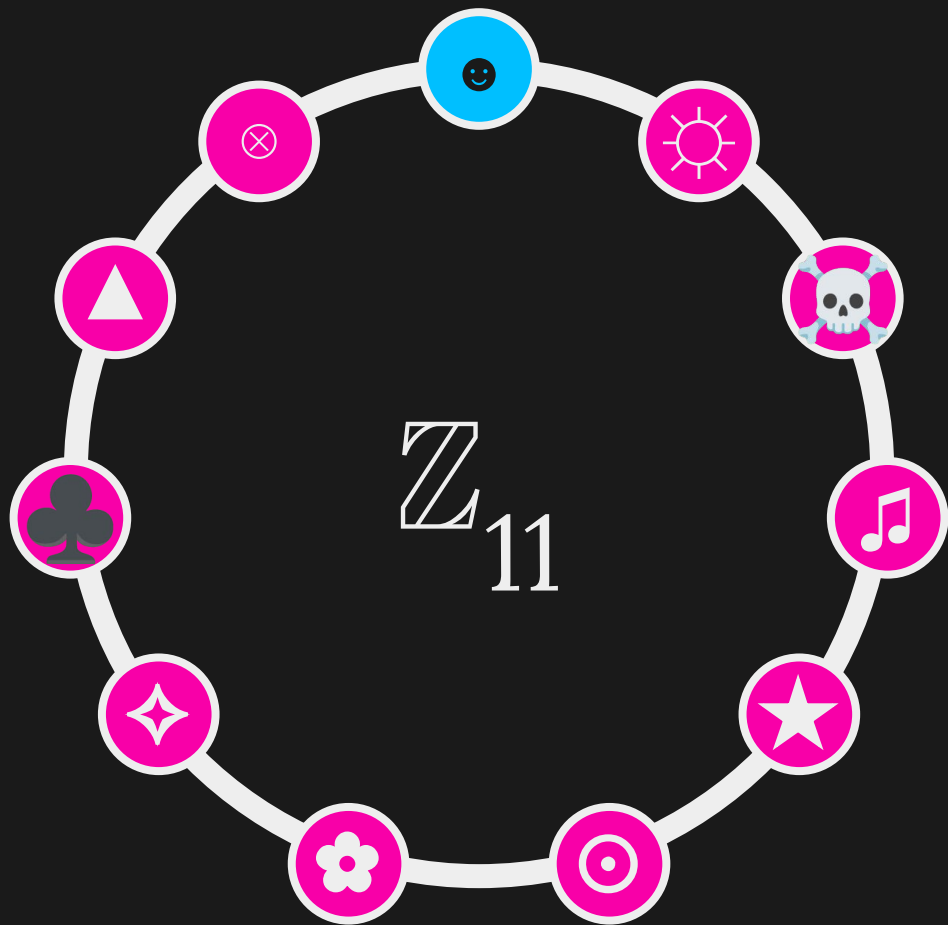


$$\textcircled{4} \times 13 = 52$$

$$= (4 \times 11) + 8$$

$$= \textcircled{8}$$

you can multiply an  
element of the group by  
something that is NOT in  
the group

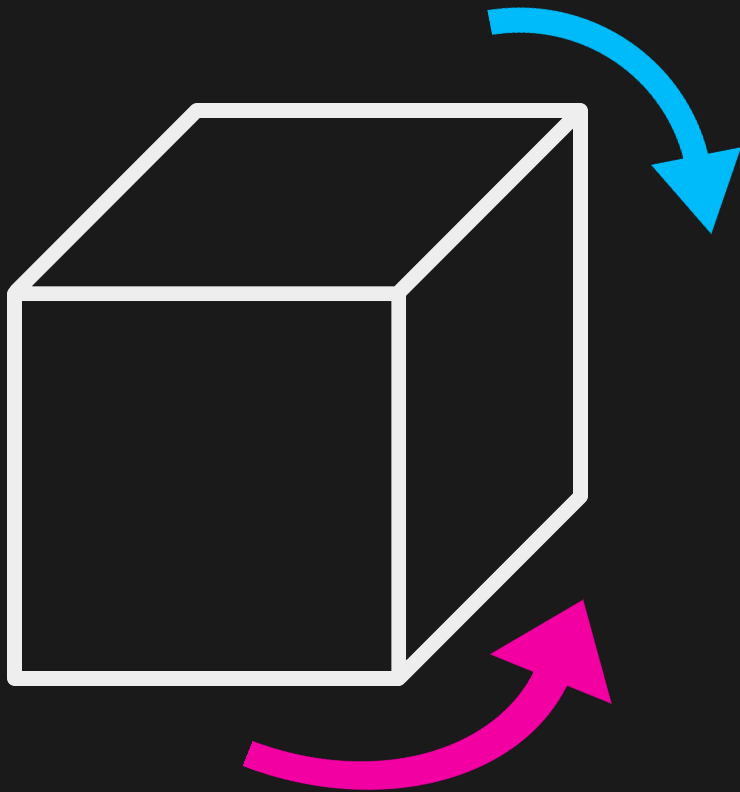


$$\text{★} \times 13 = 52$$

$$= (4 \times 11) + 8$$

$$= \text{♣}$$

you can multiply an  
element of the group by  
something that is NOT in  
the group



$\{a, b, c, \dots\}$  & '+'

### **identity element**

there is an element 0 such that  
 $0 + n = n$  for every  $n$  in the group

### **inverses**

for every  $a$  in the group, there's  
a  $b$  that makes  $a + b = 0$  true

### **associativity**

$$a + (b + c) = (a + b) + c$$

### **closure**

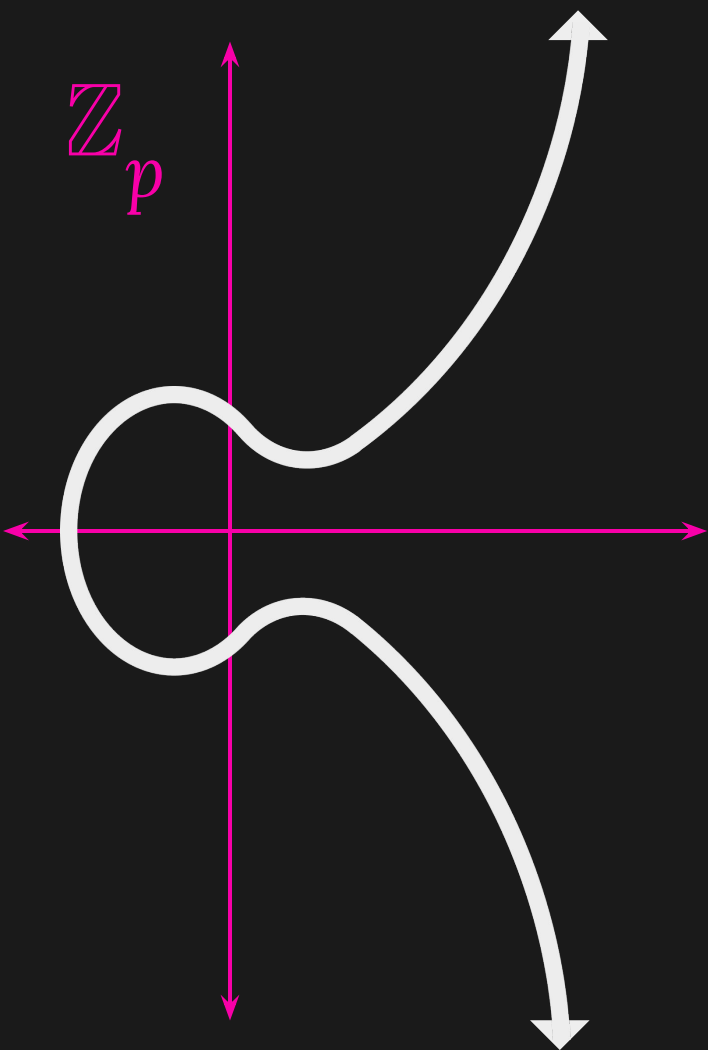
If  $a$  and  $b$  are in the group and  
 $a + b = c$ , then  $c$  is in the group

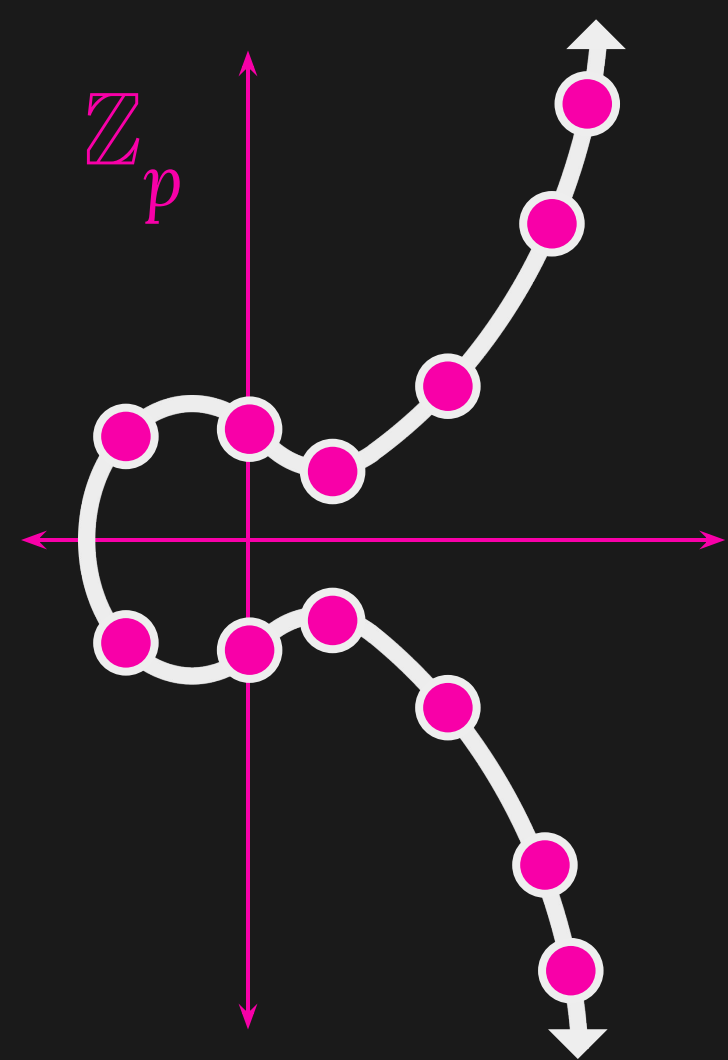
3

# Elliptic Curve Cryptography



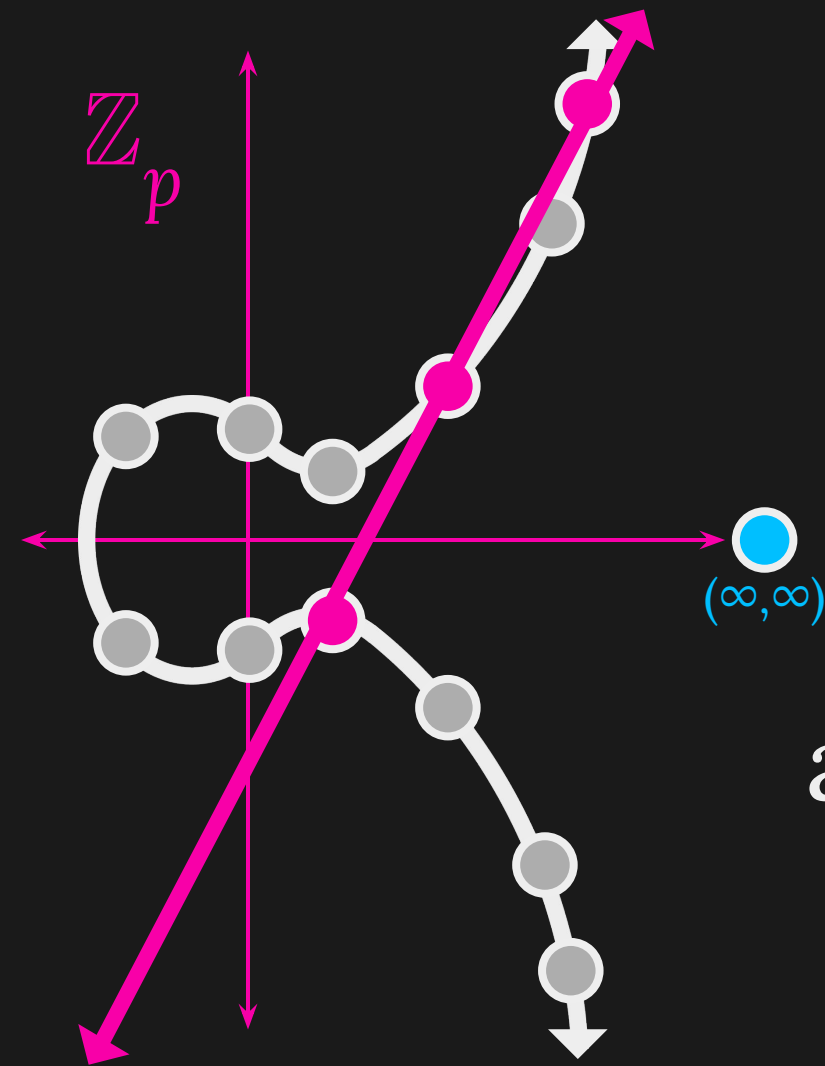
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + ax + b$$





$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + ax + b$$

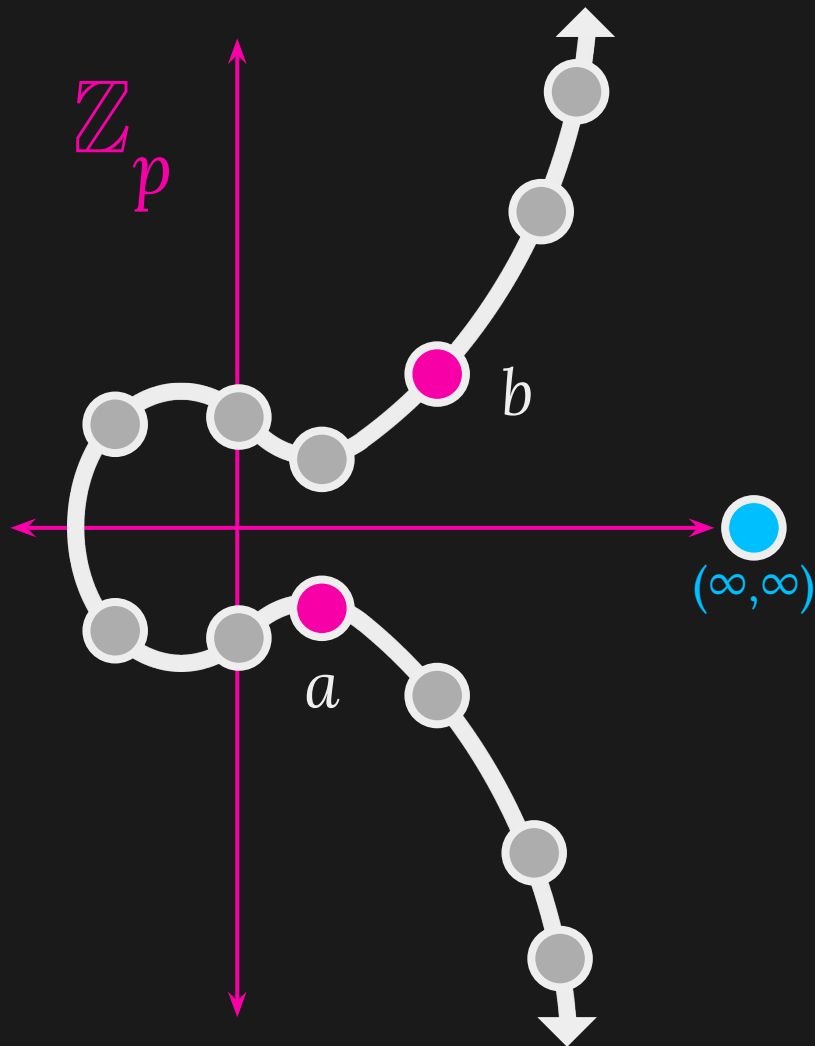
where  $x$  and  $y$   
are in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$

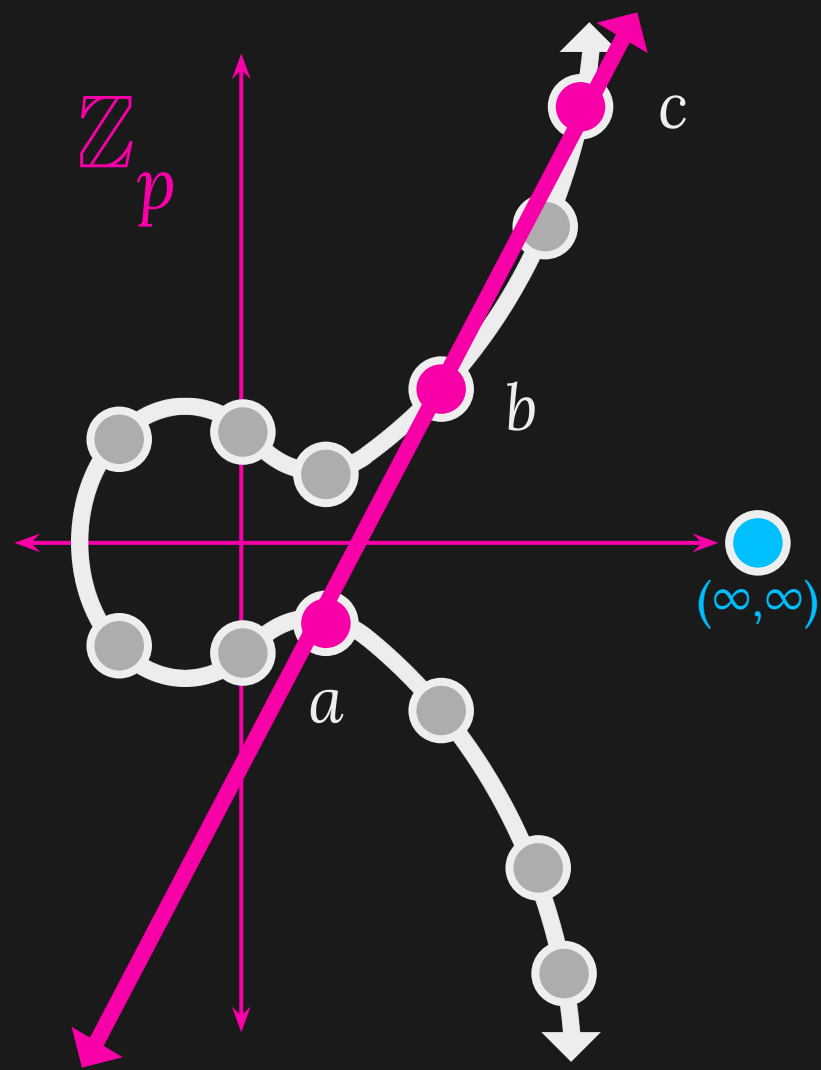


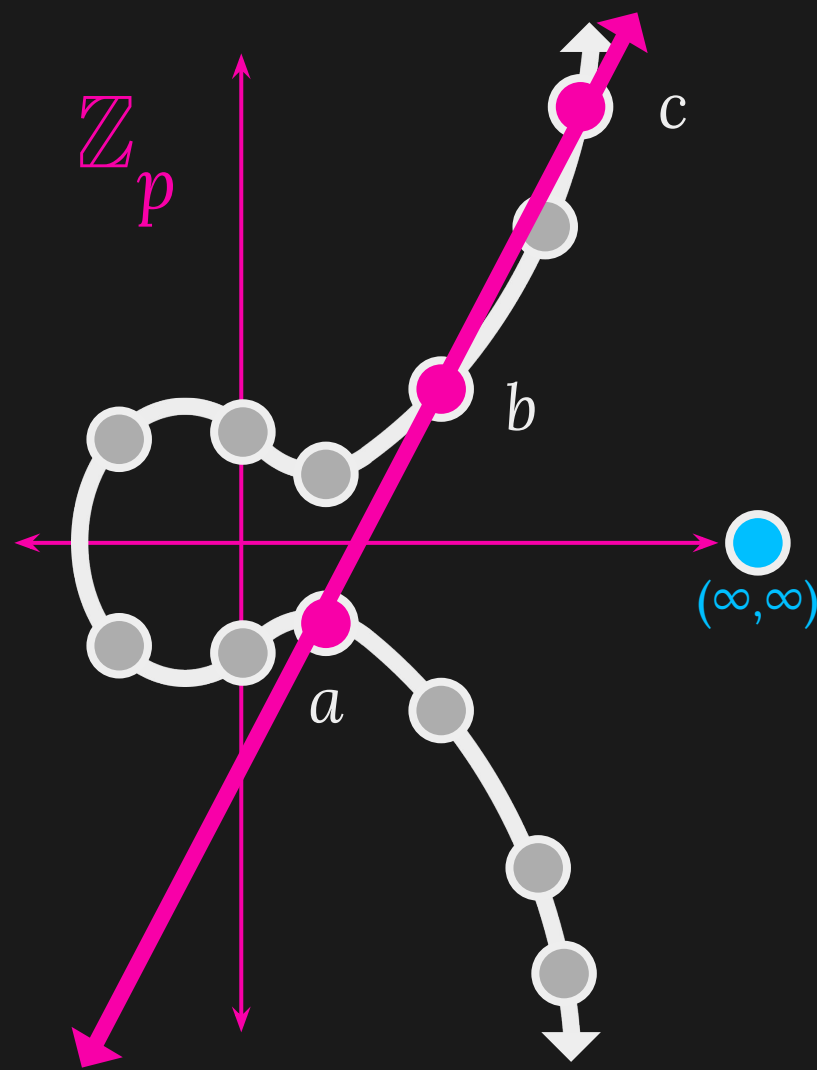
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + ax + b$$

where  $x$  and  $y$   
are in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$

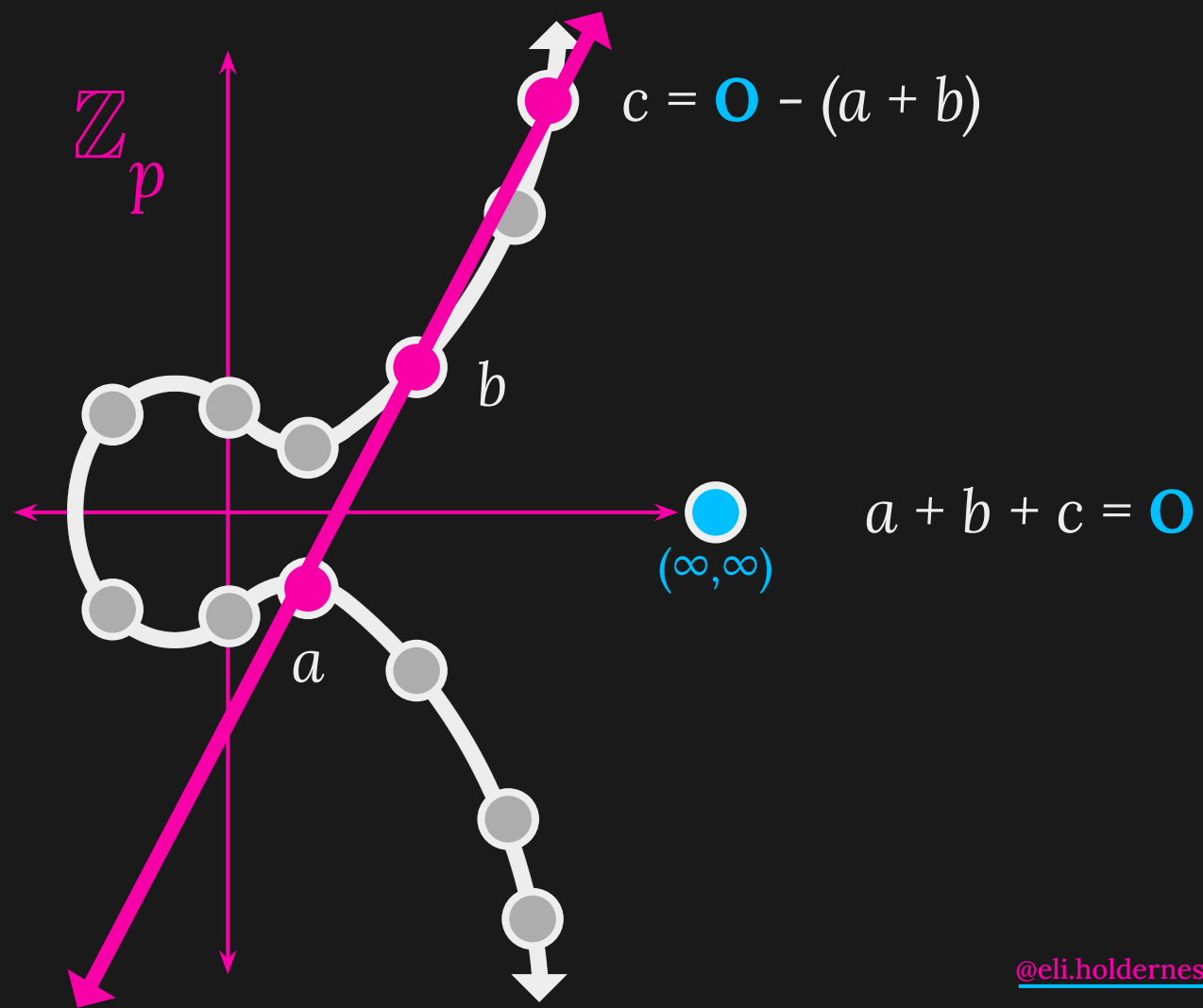
and three collinear  
points 'sum' to  $O$

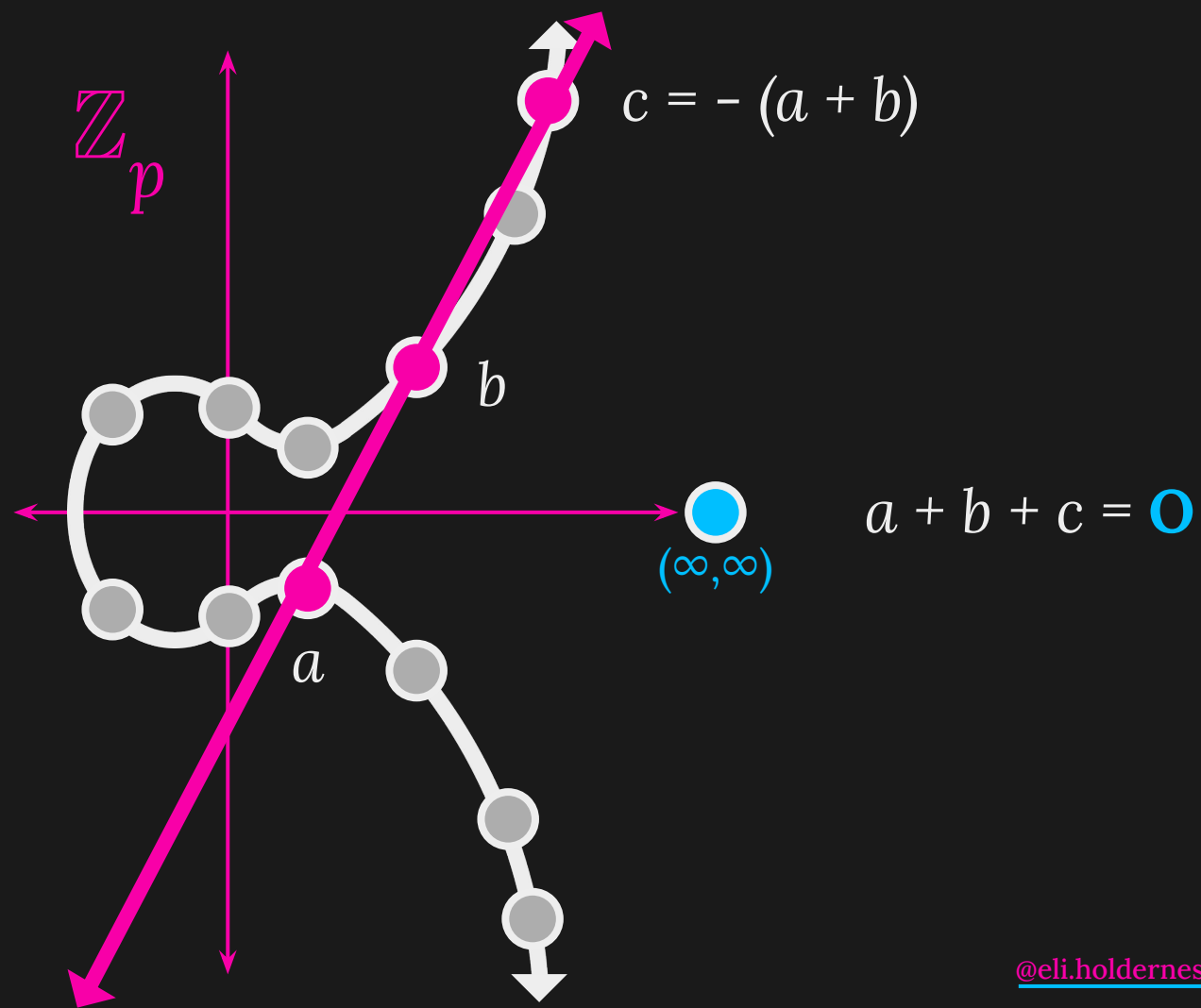




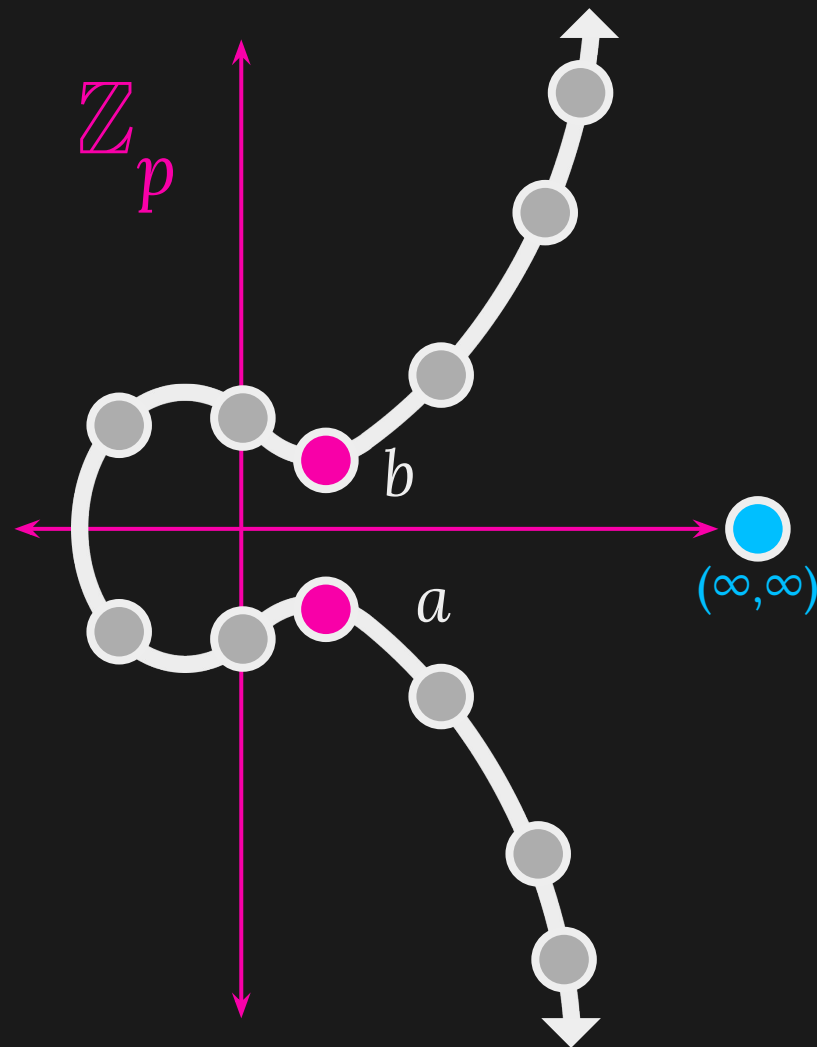


$$a + b + c = \textcolor{blue}{0}$$

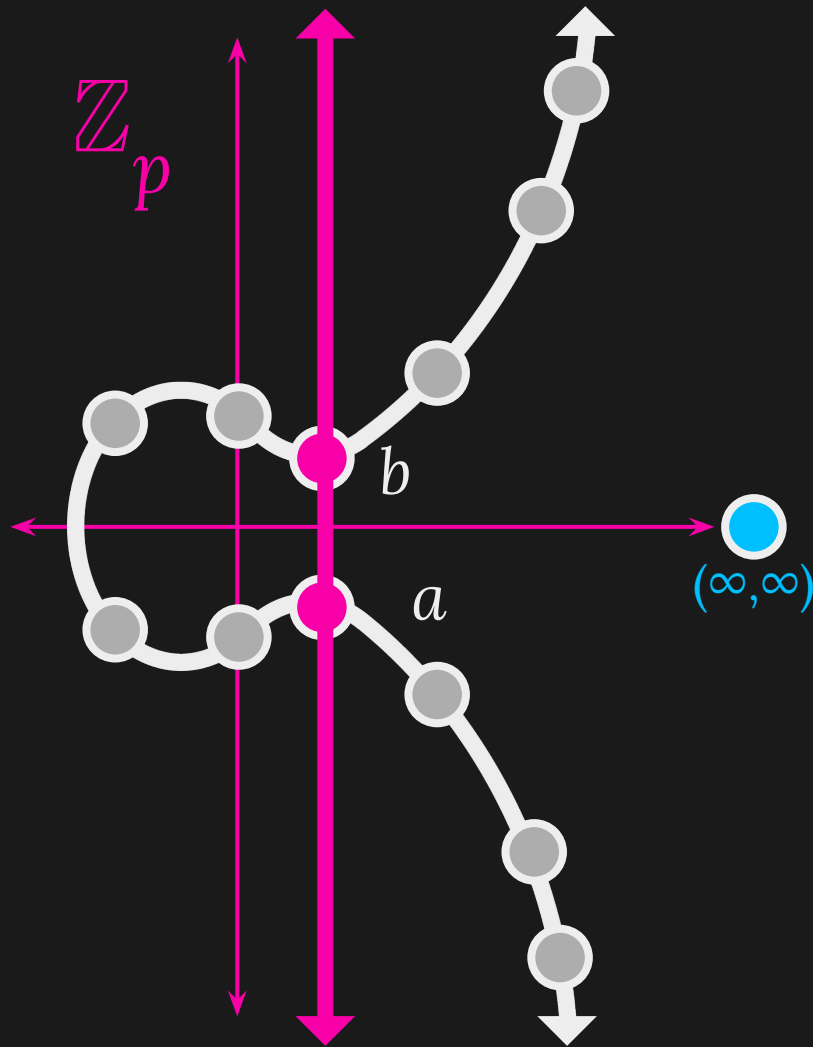








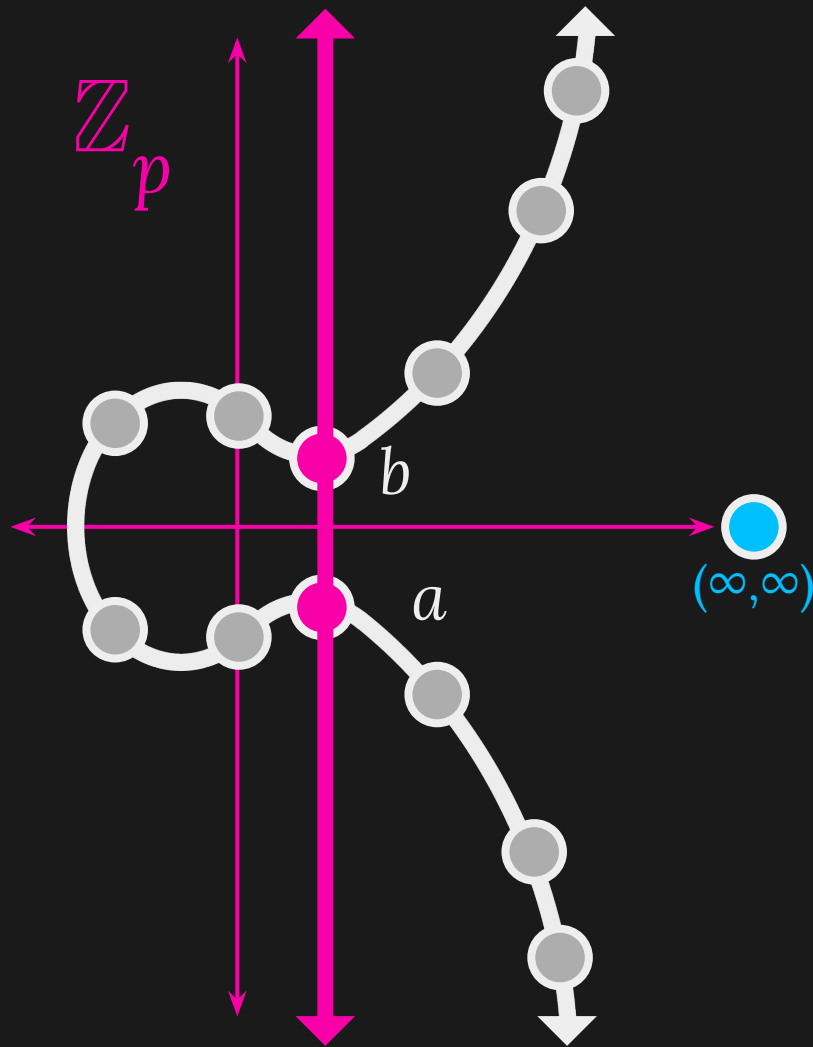
$$a + b + c = \mathbf{O}$$



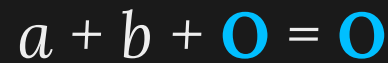
?????

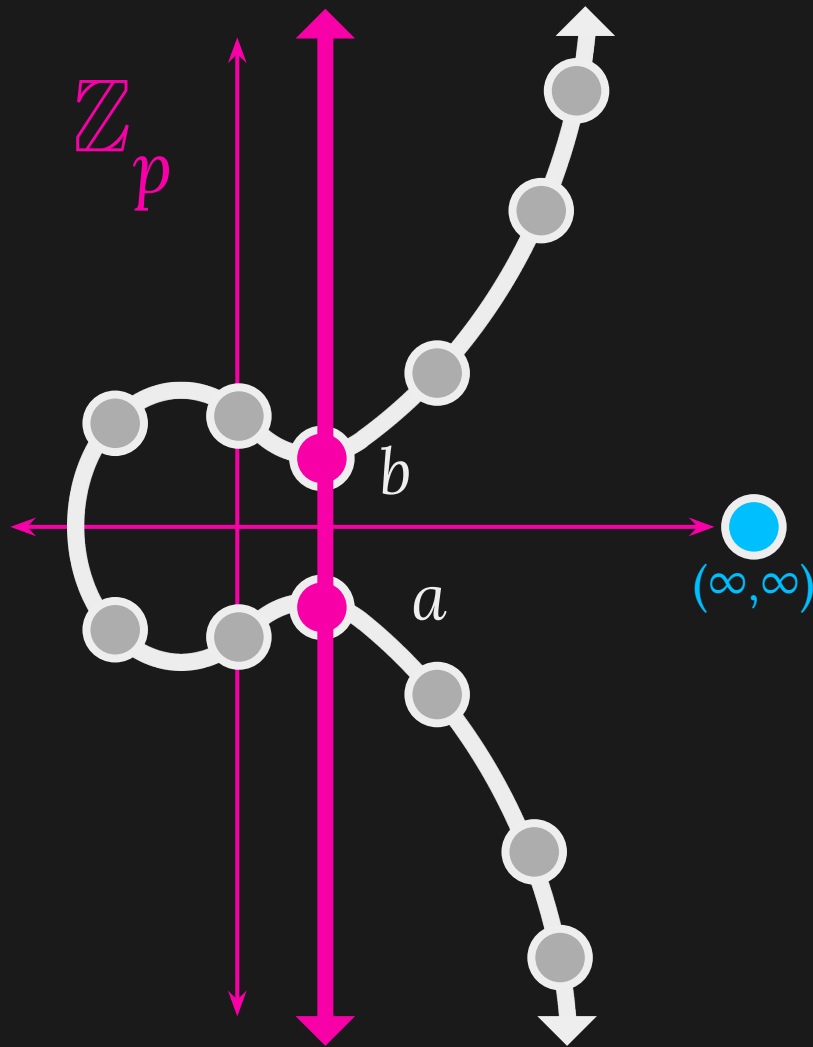


$$a + b + c = \text{blue circle}$$



$$a + b + \text{blue circle} = \text{blue circle}$$

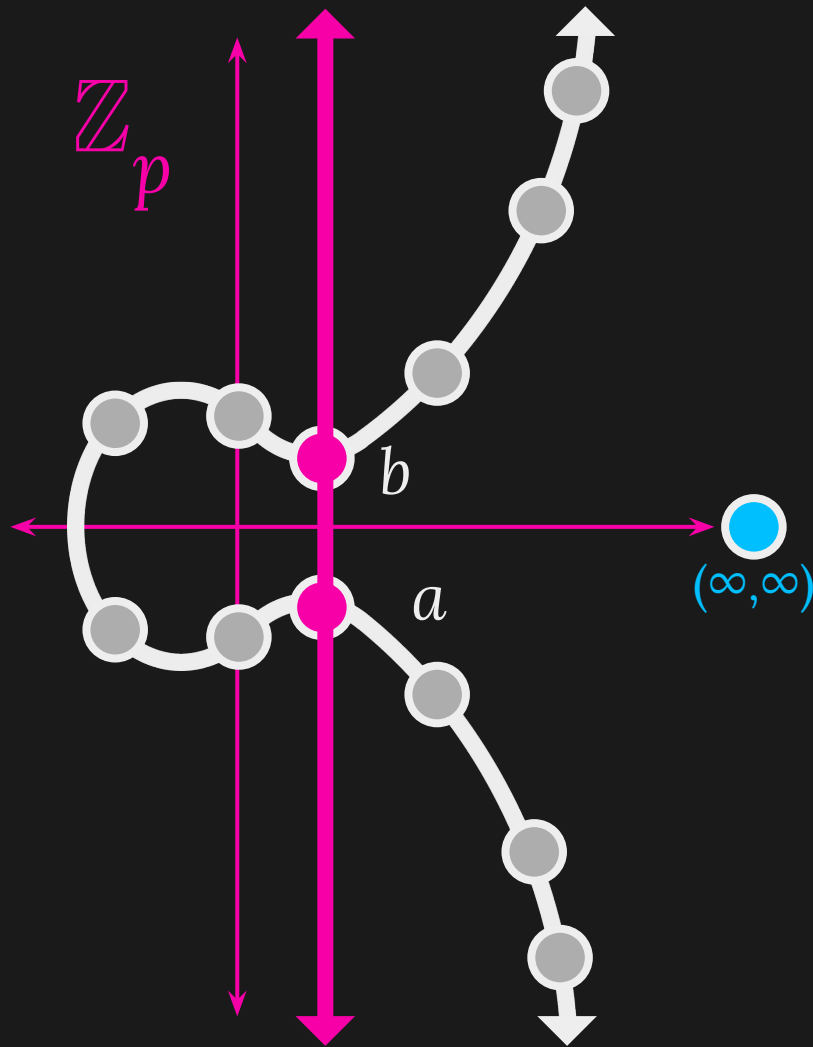




$$a + b + \text{blue circle} = \text{blue circle}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$a + b = \text{blue circle}$$



$$a + b + \text{blue circle} = \text{blue circle}$$

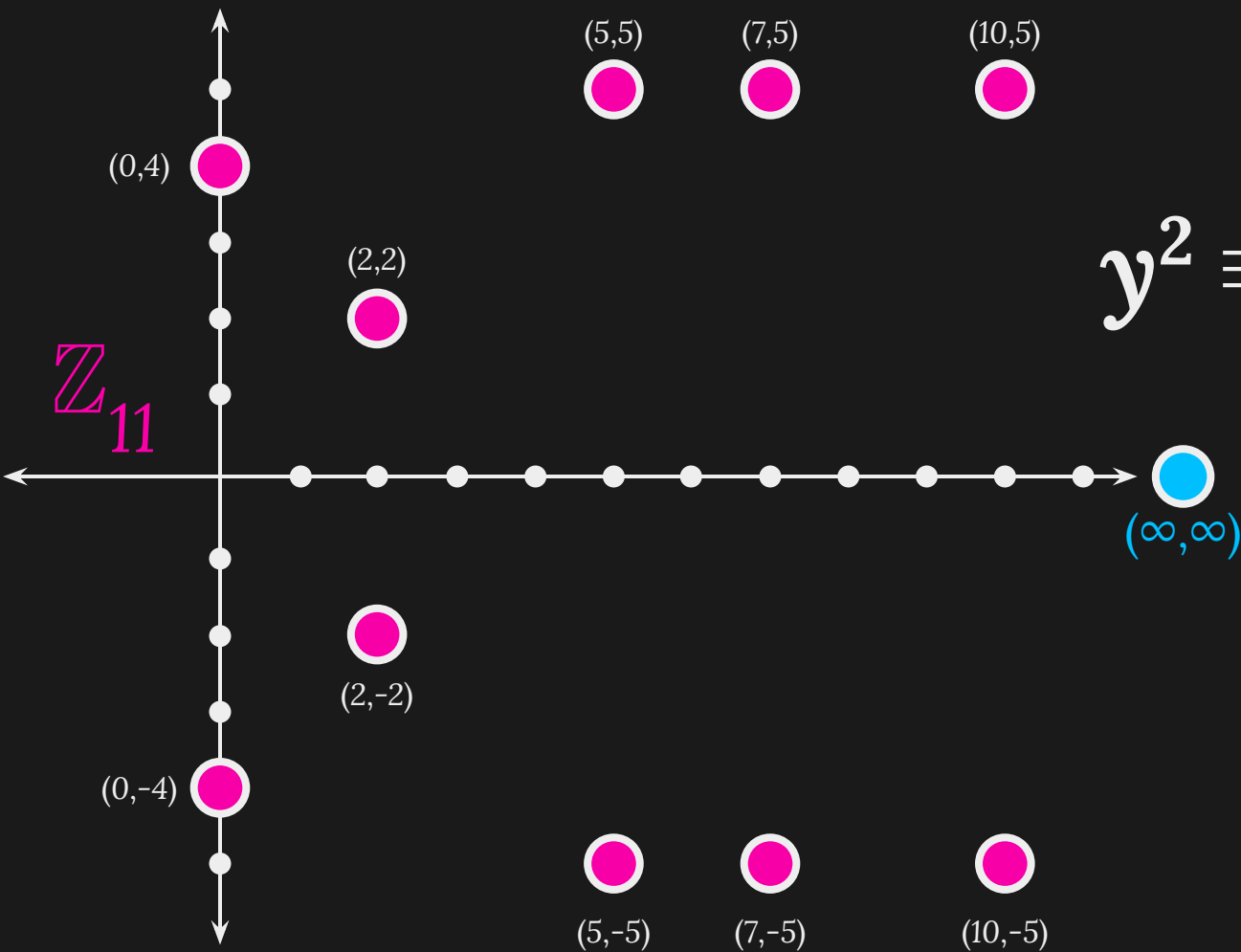
$$\Downarrow$$

$$a + b = \text{blue circle}$$

$$\Downarrow$$

$$a = -b$$

$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$



# elliptic curve domain parameters over $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$



elliptic curve domain parameters over  $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

an integer defining  
the field  $F_p$

elliptic curve domain parameters over  $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

two elements of  $F_p$  defining

$$E: y^2 \equiv x^3 + ax + b$$

elliptic curve domain parameters over  $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

a point on  $E(F_p)$  written as

$$G = (x_G, y_G)$$

elliptic curve domain parameters over  $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

the order of  $G$  in  $E(F_p)$  – i.e.,

$$n \times G = \mathbf{O}$$

elliptic curve domain parameters over  $F_p$

$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

the cofactor of  $G$  in  $E(F_p)$ , which is  
 $|E(F_p)| / n$

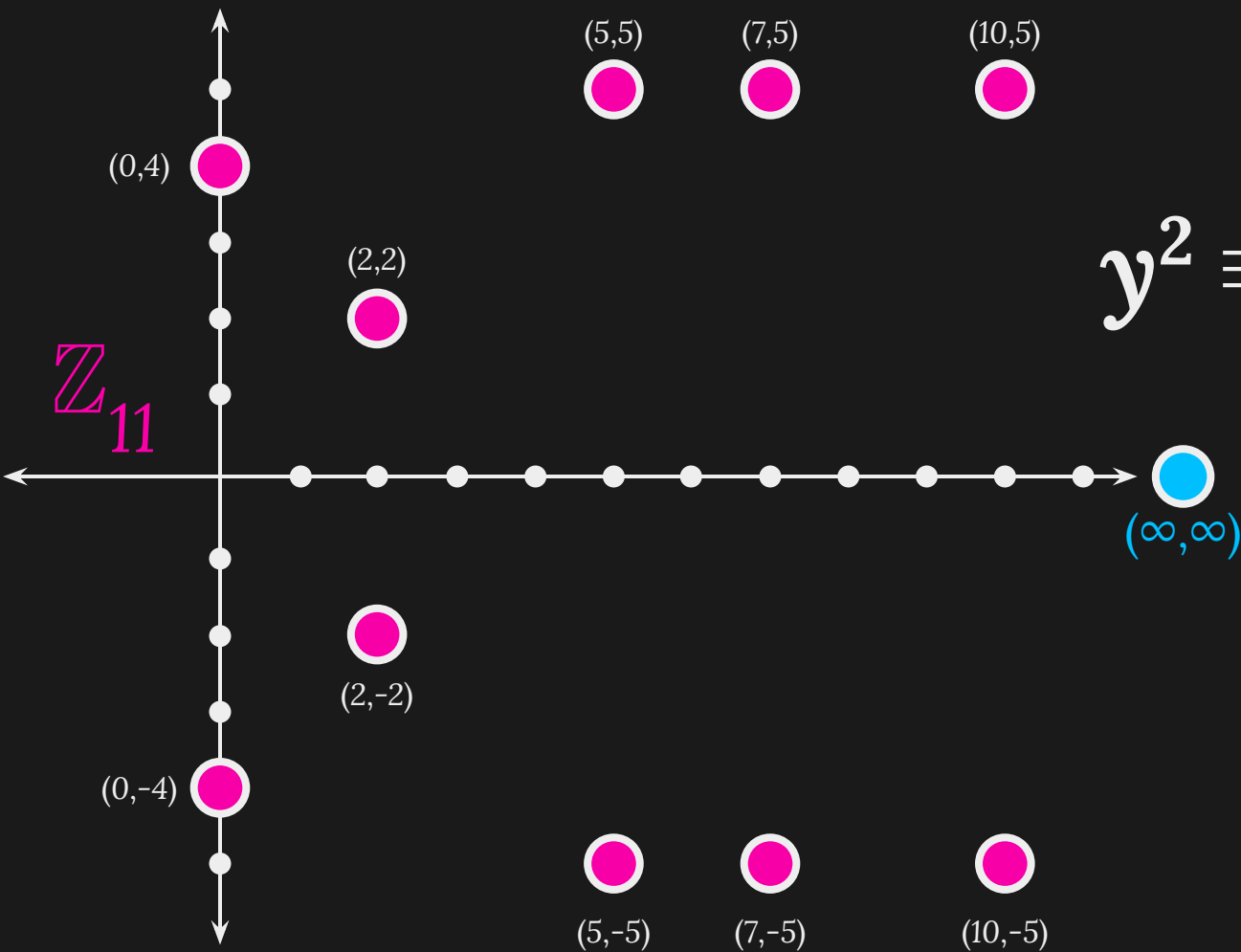
# elliptic curve domain parameters over $F_p$

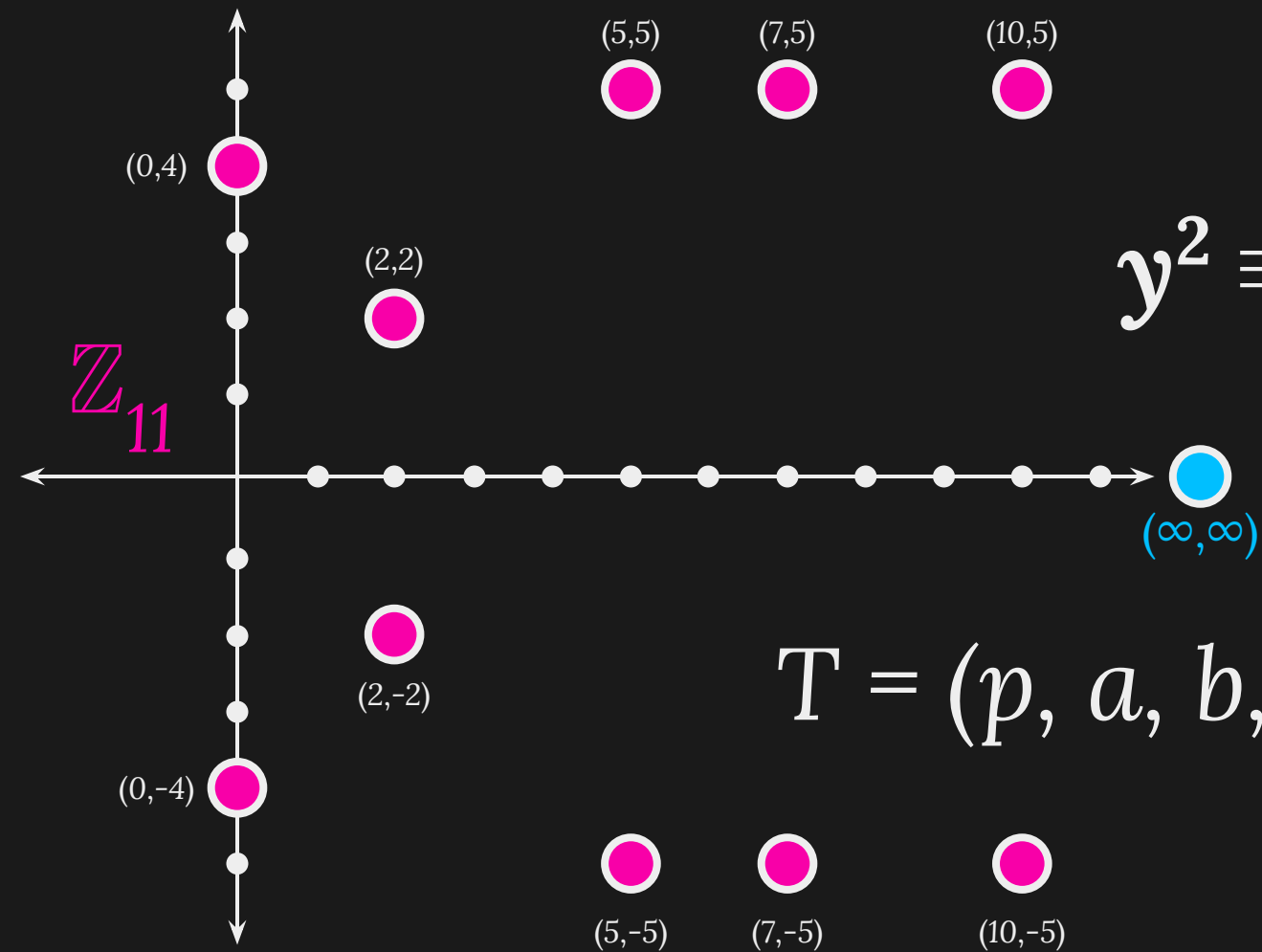
$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$

or more properly,  $\text{orb}(G)$

the cofactor of  $G$  in  $E(F_p)$ , which is  
 $|E(F_p)| / n$

$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

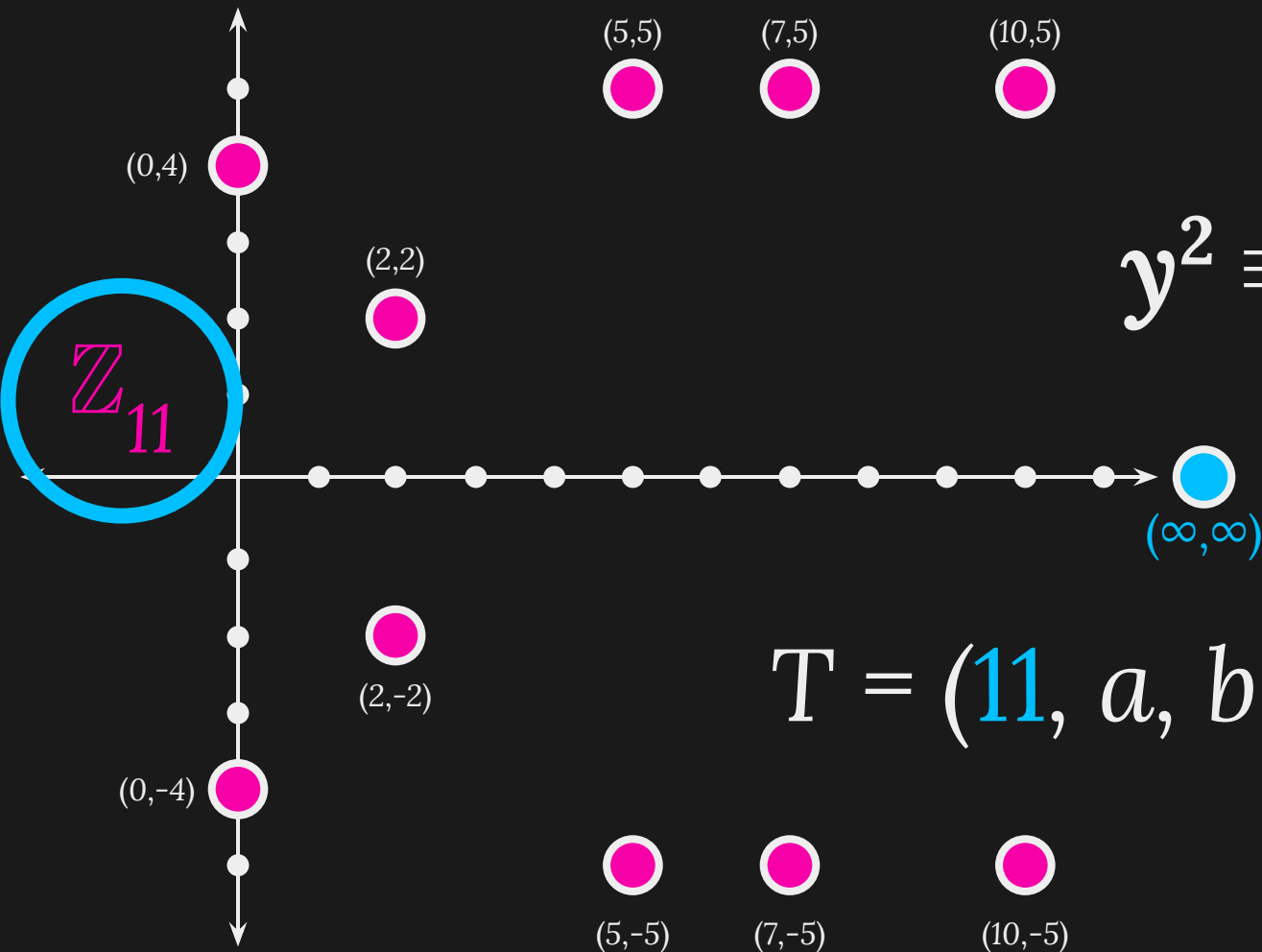




$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

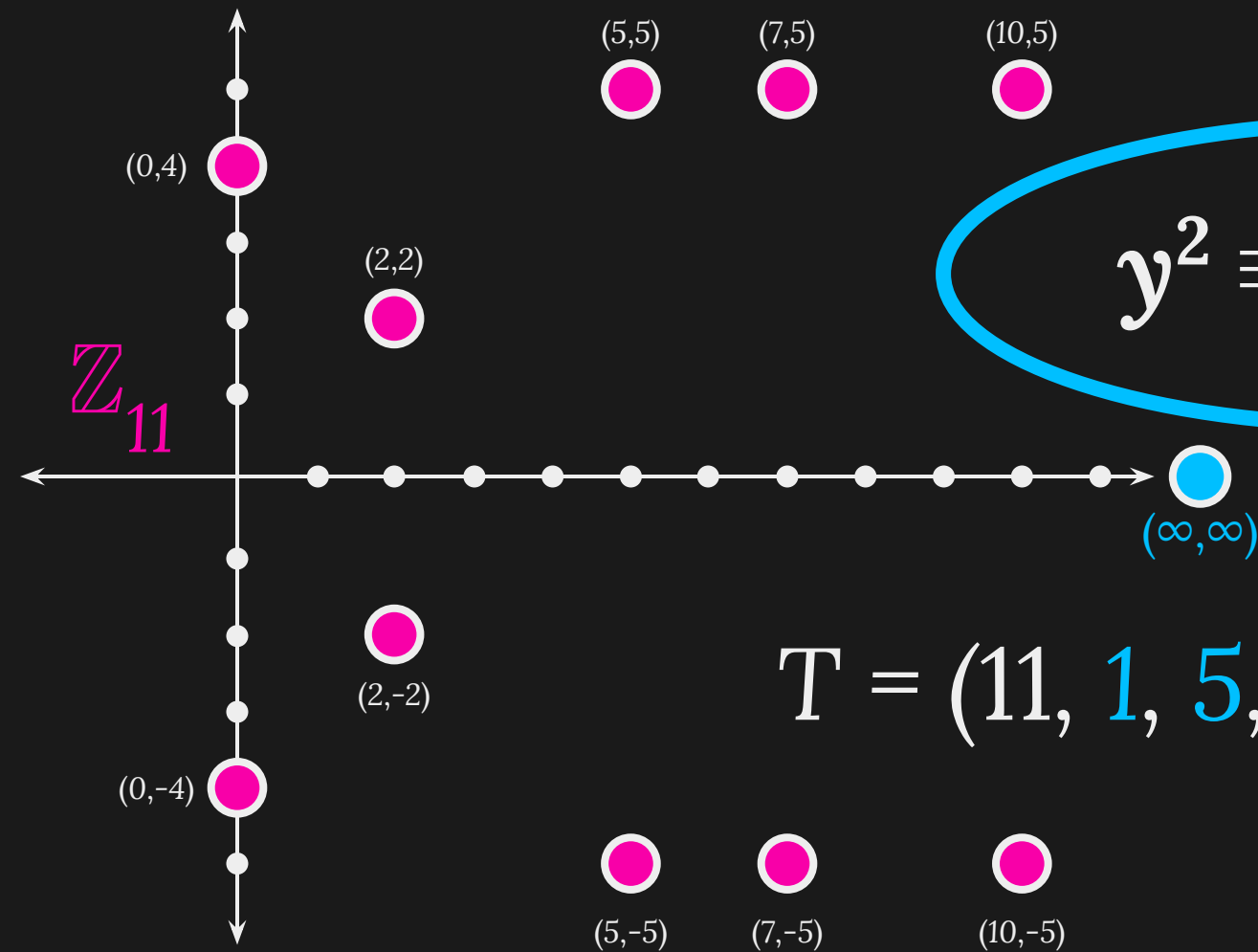
$$T = (p, a, b, G, n, h)$$





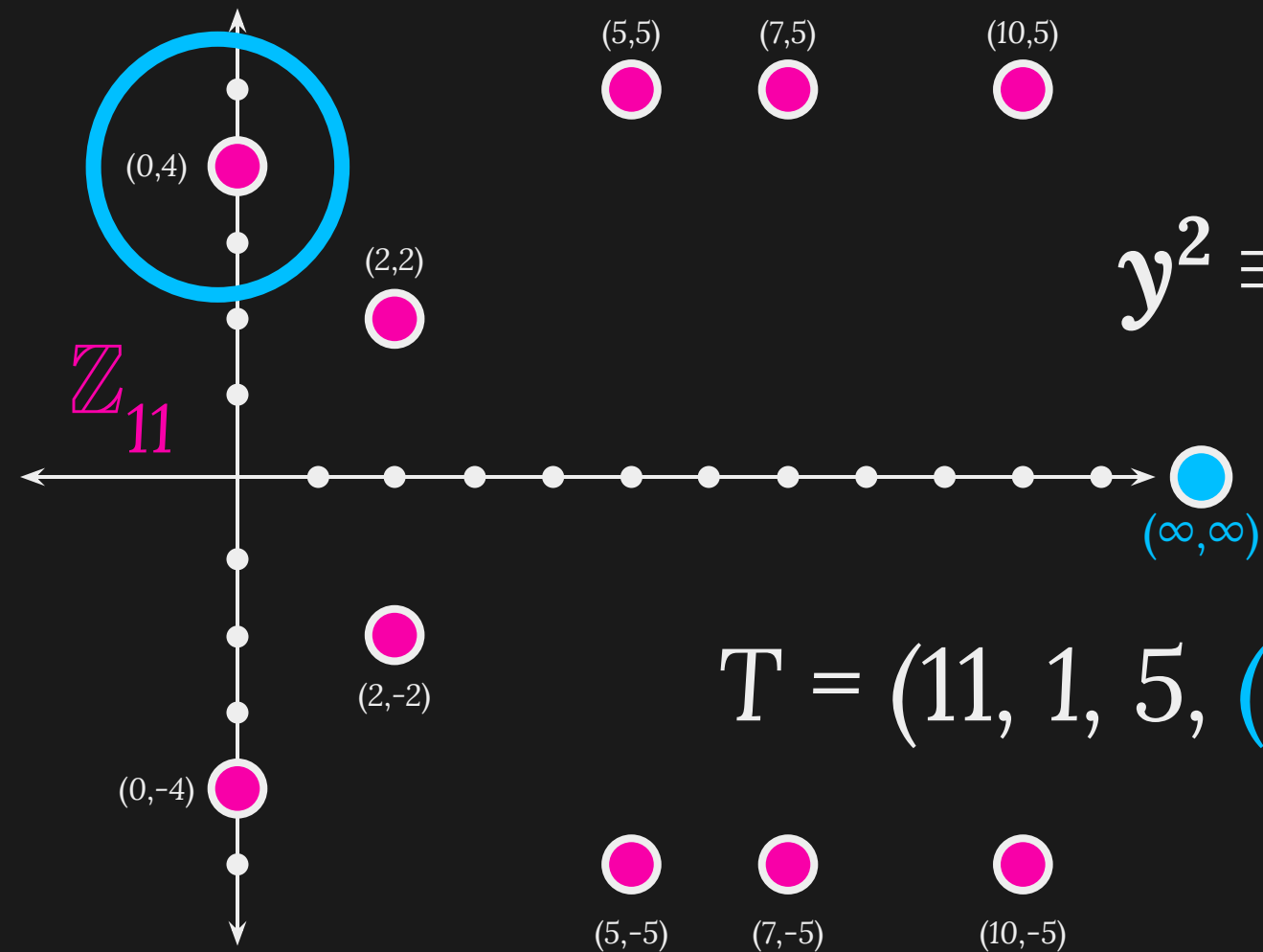
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

$$T = (11, a, b, G, n, h)$$



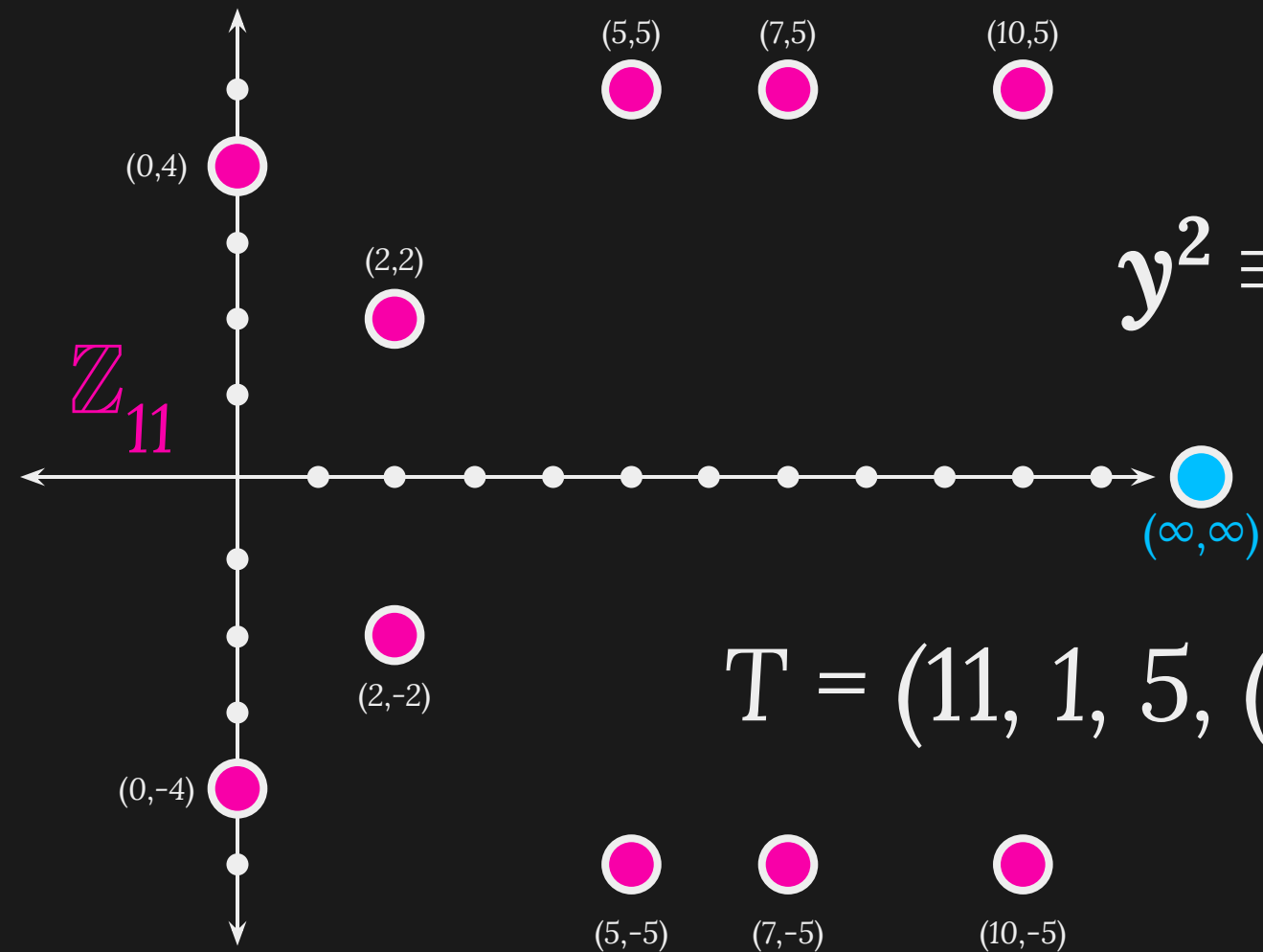
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

$$T = (11, 1, 5, G, n, h)$$



$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

$$T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), n, h)$$

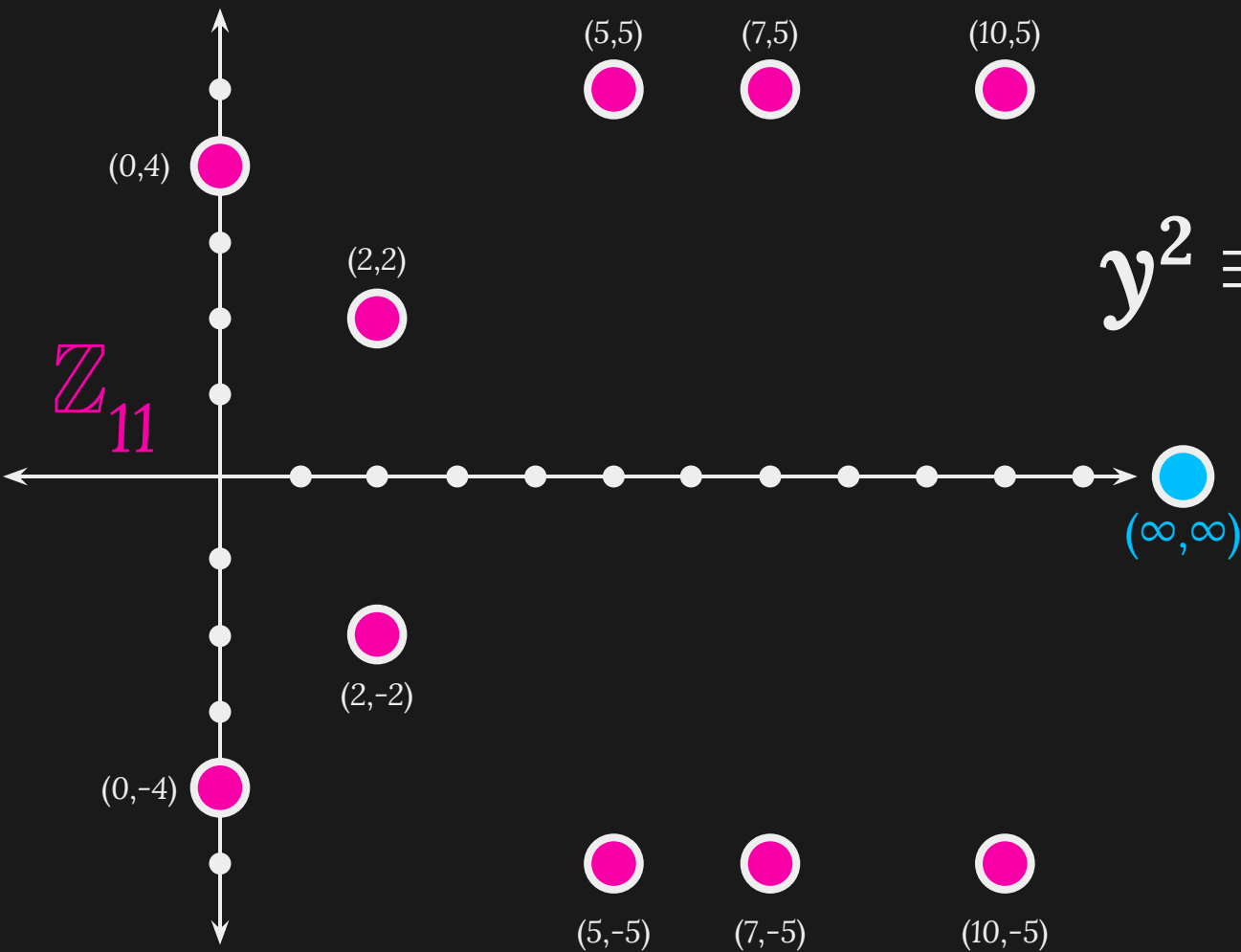


$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

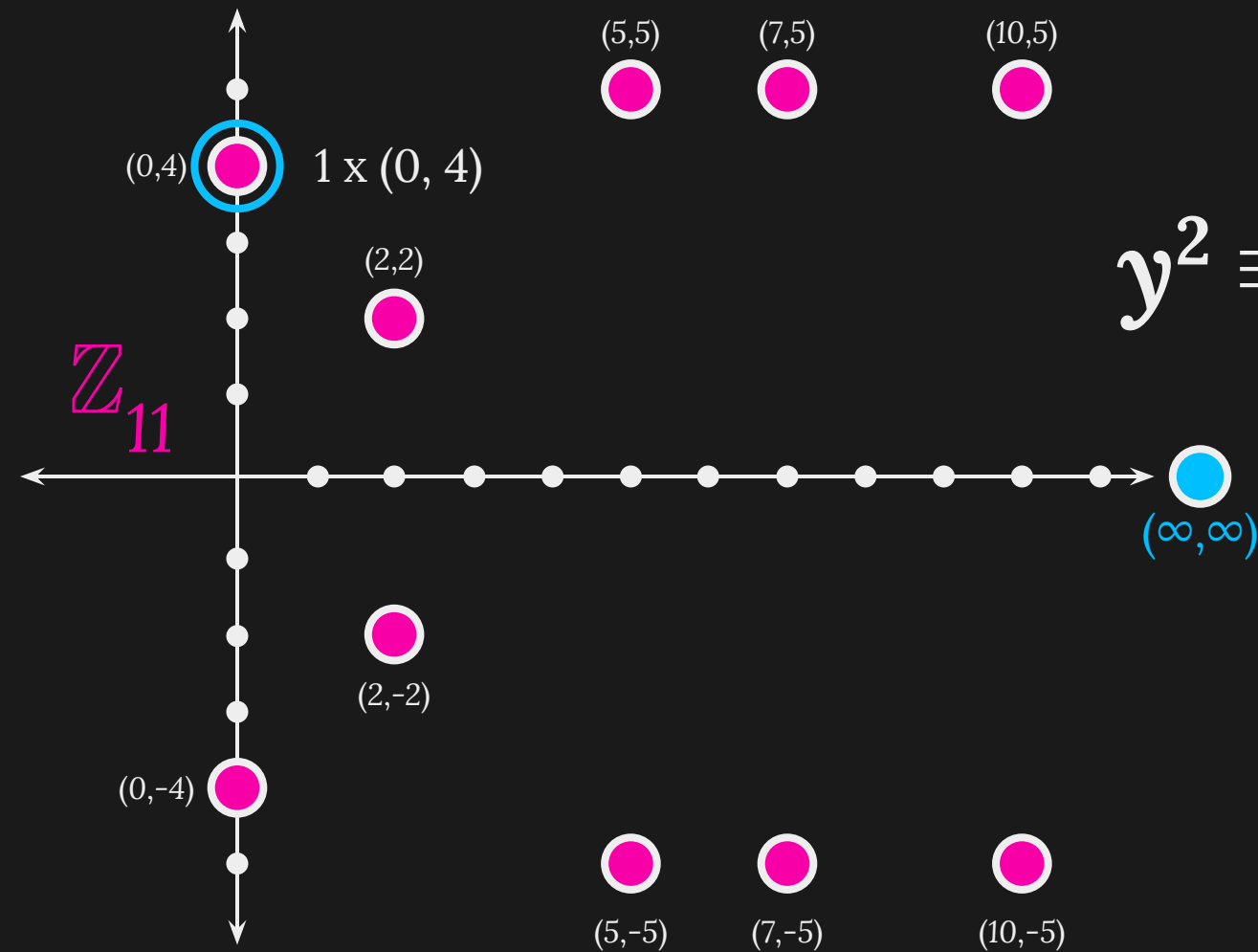
$$T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$$

**< worked example at the end >**

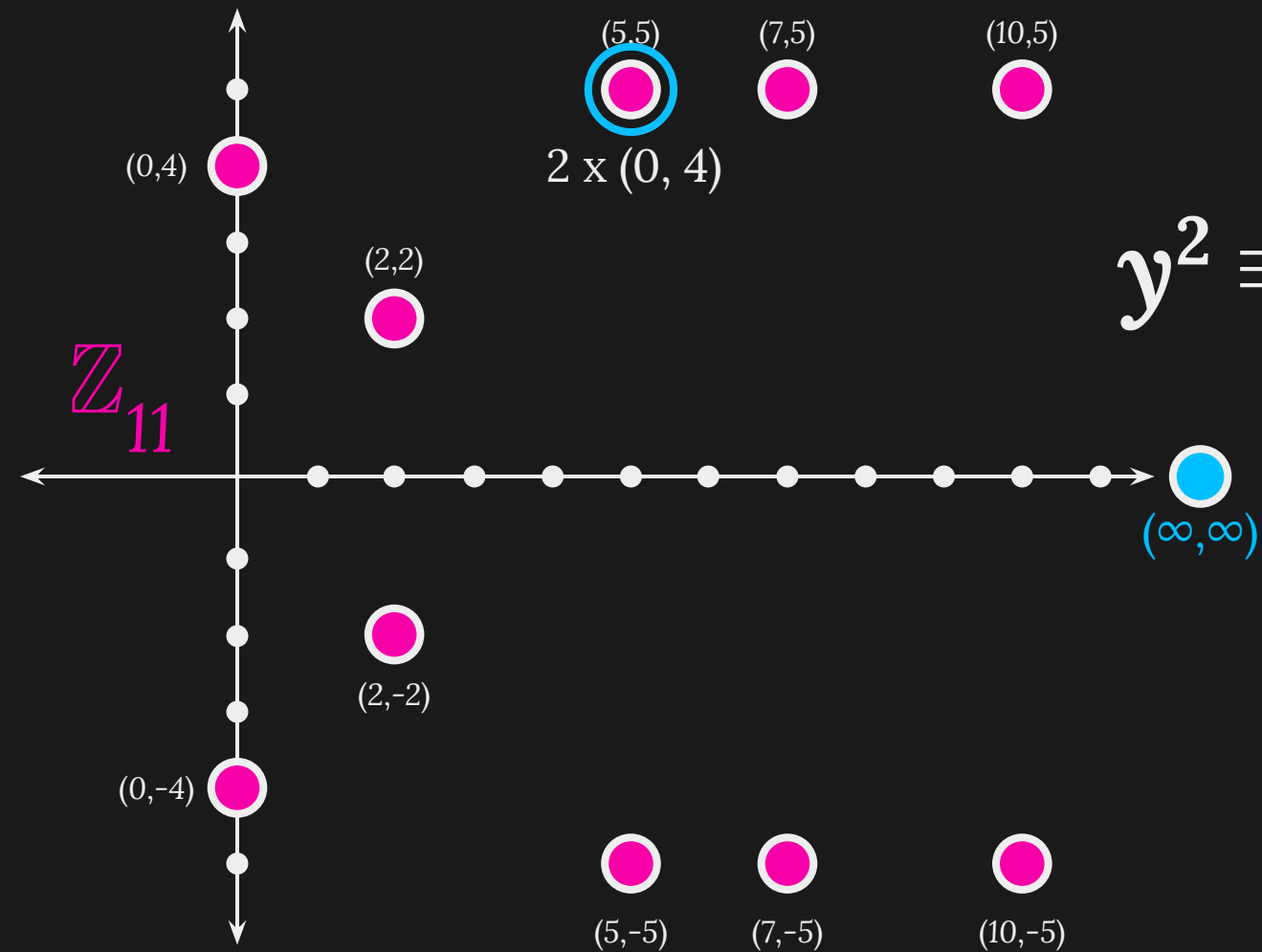
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$



$\mathbb{Z}_{11}$

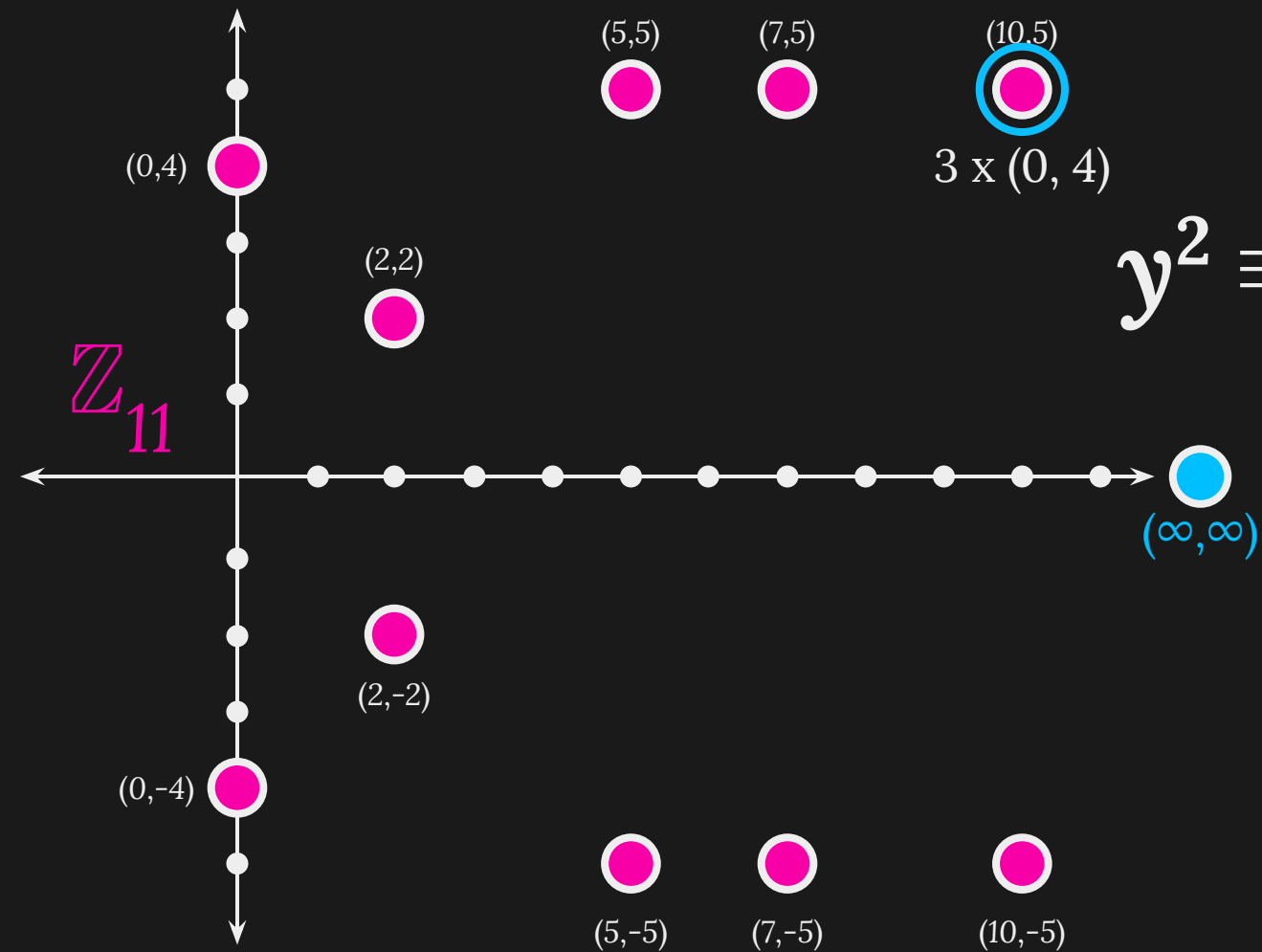


$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$



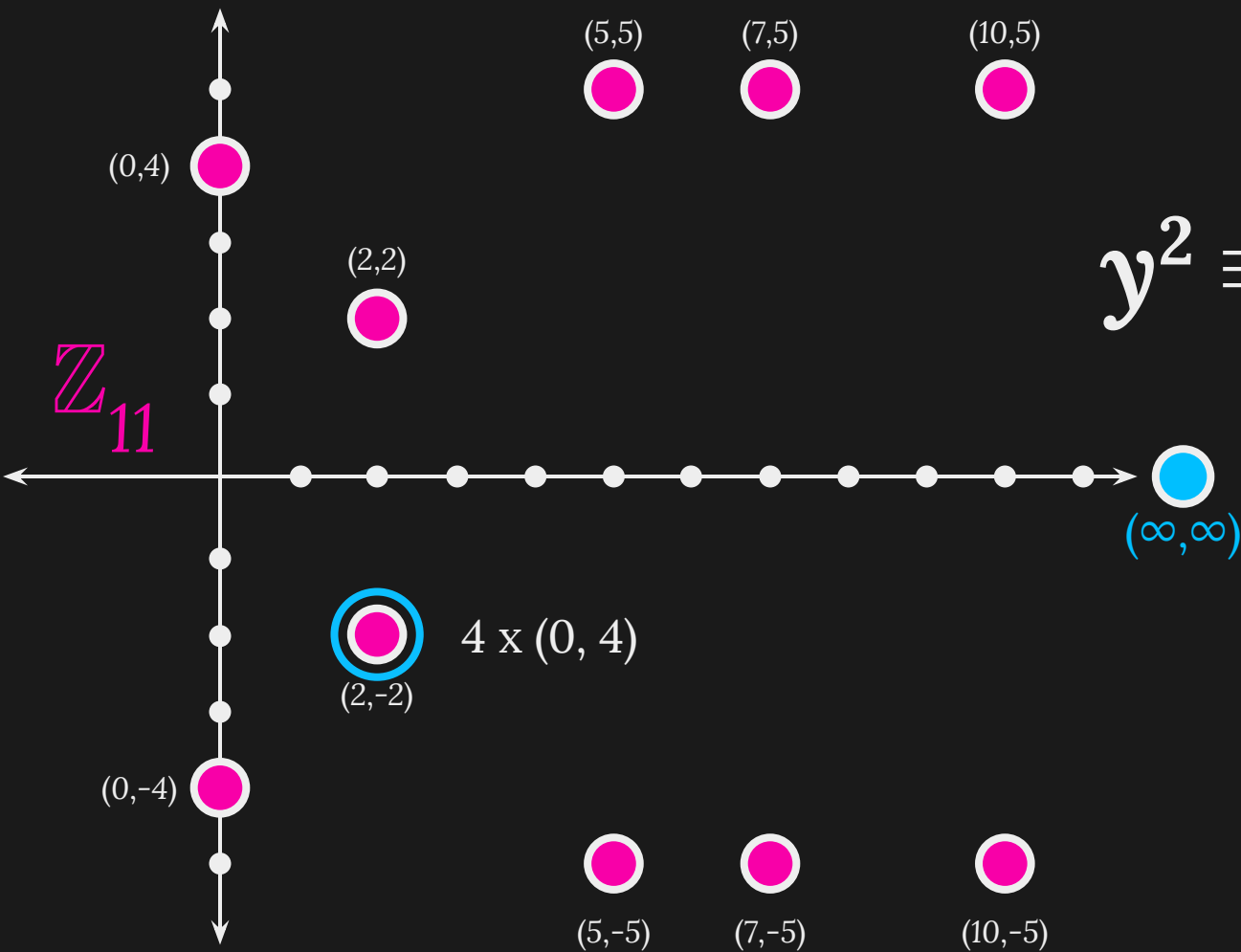
$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$





$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$

$$y^2 \equiv x^3 + x + 5$$



$$1 \times G = (0, 4)$$

$$2 \times G = (5, 5)$$

$$3 \times G = (10, 5)$$

$$4 \times G = (2, -2)$$

$$5 \times G = (7, -5)$$

$$6 \times G = (7, 5)$$

$$7 \times G = (2, 2)$$

$$8 \times G = (10, -5)$$

$$9 \times G = (5, -5)$$

$$10 \times G = (0, -4)$$

$$11 \times G = (\infty, \infty)$$

$$1 \times G = (0, 4)$$

$$2 \times G = (5, 5)$$

$$3 \times G = (10, 5)$$

$$4 \times G = (2, -2)$$

$$5 \times G = (7, -5)$$

$$6 \times G = (7, 5)$$

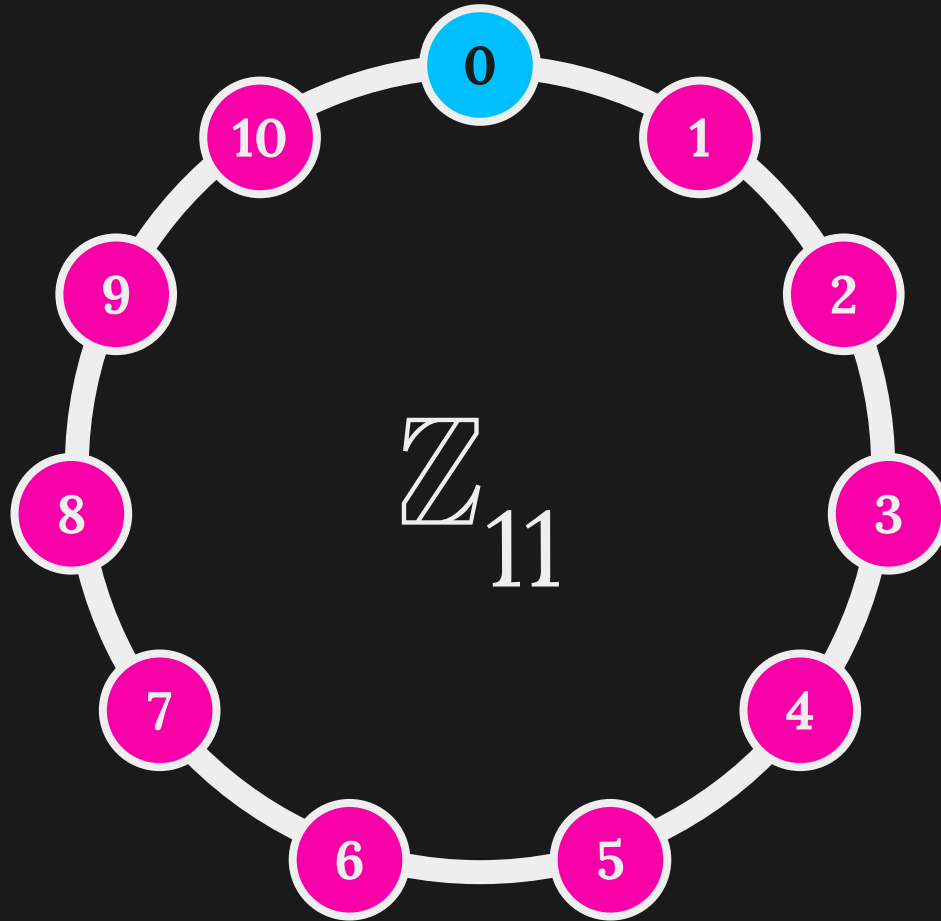
$$7 \times G = (2, 2)$$

$$8 \times G = (10, -5)$$

$$9 \times G = (5, -5)$$

$$10 \times G = (0, -4)$$

$$11 \times G = (\infty, \infty)$$



# comparison with RSA

# comparison with RSA

smaller key size per security

# comparison with RSA

smaller key size per security

smaller payload size



## comparison with RSA

smaller key size per security

smaller payload size

faster computation





4

# Quantum Computing & Shor's Algorithms

# the Integer Factorisation problem

if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$

## the Integer Factorisation problem

if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$

## the Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $g$  generates a subgroup of a finite field  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , find  $x$  such that  $g^x = y$

## the Integer Factorisation problem

if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$

## the Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $g$  generates a subgroup of a finite field  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , find  $x$  such that  $g^x = y$

## the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $G$  generates a subgroup of an elliptic curve over a field  $F$ , and  $P$  is another member of that elliptic curve, find  $k$  such that  $P = kG$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

for a given number  $N$ , and any number  $a$  between 1 and  $N$ , we can find the smallest  $r$  such that  $a^r \equiv 1 \pmod{N}$ , in polynomial time



# Shor's order-finding algorithm

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

let  $N = 323$ . Choose  $a = 11$ .

Shor's algorithm gives us that  $11^{48} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

let  $N = 323$ . Choose  $a = 11$ .

Shor's algorithm gives us that  $11^{48} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$

$11^{48} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ , so  $(11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ ,  
which is equivalent to  $323 \mid (11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1)$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

let  $N = 323$ . Choose  $a = 11$ .

Shor's algorithm gives us that  $11^{48} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$

$11^{48} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ , so  $(11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ ,  
which is equivalent to  $323 \mid (11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1)$

we know 323 doesn't divide  $11^{24} - 1$ , or else we'd have

$$11^{24} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

let  $N = 323$ . Choose  $a = 11$ .

Shor's algorithm gives us that  $11^{48} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$

$11^{48} - 1 \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ , so  $(11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1) \equiv 0 \pmod{323}$ ,  
which is equivalent to  $323 \mid (11^{24} - 1)(11^{24} + 1)$

we know 323 doesn't divide  $11^{24} - 1$ , or else we'd have

$$11^{24} \equiv 1 \pmod{323}$$

so at least some of the factors of 323 must also  
divide  $11^{24} + 1$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

given that at least some of the factors of 323  
must also divide  $11^{24} + 1$

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

given that at least some of the factors of 323  
must also divide  $11^{24} + 1$

calculate  $\gcd(323, 11^{24} + 1) = 17$ ,  
which is computationally efficient on classical computers

# Shor's order-finding algorithm

given that at least some of the factors of 323  
must also divide  $11^{24} + 1$

calculate  $\gcd(323, 11^{24} + 1) = 17$ ,  
which is computationally efficient on classical computers

find that  $17 \mid 323$  and  $323 = 17 * 19$ .



# Shor's order-finding algorithm

given that at least some of the factors of 323  
must also divide  $11^{24} + 1$

calculate  $\gcd(323, 11^{24} + 1) = 17$ ,  
which is computationally efficient on classical computers

find that  $17 \mid 323$  and  $323 = 17 * 19$ .

this breaks RSA!

## the Integer Factorisation problem

if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$

## the Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $g$  generates a subgroup of a finite field  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , find  $x$  such that  $g^x = y$

## the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $G$  generates a subgroup of an elliptic curve over a field  $F$ , and  $P$  is another member of that elliptic curve, find  $k$  such that  $P = kG$

## ~~the Integer Factorisation problem~~

~~if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$~~

## the Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $g$  generates a subgroup of a finite field  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , find  $x$  such that  $g^x = y$

## the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem

if  $G$  generates a subgroup of an elliptic curve over a field  $F$ , and  $P$  is another member of that elliptic curve, find  $k$  such that  $P = kG$

## ~~the Integer Factorisation problem~~

~~if  $pq = N$  with  $p$  &  $q$  prime, find  $p$  and  $q$  given only  $N$~~

## ~~the Discrete Logarithm problem~~

~~if  $g$  generates a subgroup of a finite field  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , find  $x$  such that  $g^x = y$~~

## ~~the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem~~

~~if  $G$  generates a subgroup of an elliptic curve over a field  $F$ , and  $P$  is another member of that elliptic curve, find  $k$  such that  $P = kG$~~

~~the Integer Factorisation problem~~

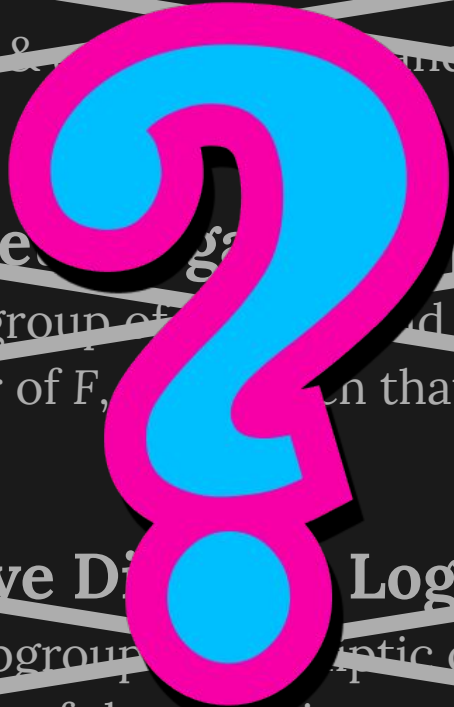
~~if  $pq = N$  with  $p \leq \sqrt{N}$  and  $q$  given only  $N$~~

~~the Discrete Logarithm problem~~

~~if  $g$  generates a subgroup of  $F$  and  $F$ , and  $y$  is another member of  $F$ , then that  $g^x = y$~~

~~the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem~~

~~if  $G$  generates a subgroup of an elliptic curve over a field  $F$ , and  $P$  is another member of that elliptic curve, find  $k$  such that  $P = kG$~~



5

# Post-quantum Cryptography

## the isogeny-finding problem

given two elliptic curves between which we know there exists an isogeny, find the mapping that describes it

## the isogeny-finding problem

given two elliptic curves between which we know there exists an isogeny, find the mapping that describes it

SIKE and SIDH, which are considered insecure



## the isogeny-finding problem

given two elliptic curves between which we know there exists an isogeny, find the mapping that describes it

SIKE and SIDH, which are considered insecure

CSIDH

# Quantum Security Analysis of CSIDH and Ordinary Isogeny-based Schemes

Xavier Bonnetain<sup>1,2</sup> and André Schrottenloher<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sorbonne Université, Collège Doctoral, F-75005 Paris, France

<sup>2</sup> Inria, France

**Abstract.** CSIDH is a recent proposal by Castryck, Lange, Martindale, Panny and Renes for post-quantum non-interactive key-exchange. It is similar in design to a scheme by Couveignes, Rostovtsev and Stolbunov.

<https://who.rocq.inria.fr/Xavier.Bonnetain/pdfs/csidh-attack.pdf>

[@eli.holderness.dev](https://twitter.com/eli.holderness.dev)

# Quantum Security Analysis of CSIDH and Ordinary Isogeny-based Schemes

Xavier Bonnetain<sup>1,2</sup> and André Schrottenloher<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Sorbonne Université, Collège Doctoral, F-75005 Paris, France

<sup>2</sup> Inria, France

**Abstract.** CSIDH is a recent proposal by Castryck, Lange, Martindale, Panny and Renes for post-quantum non-interactive key-exchange. It is similar in design to a scheme by Couveignes, Rostovtsev and Stolbunov.

## 7 Conclusion

We presented a comprehensive quantum security assessment of CSIDH. In particular, when compared to the cost of a classical key-exchange, we showed that the parameters set in [6] actually seem to provide only around half of the expected security, as summarized in Table 7.

<https://who.rocq.inria.fr/Xavier.Bonnetain/pdfs/csidh-attack.pdf>

[@eli.holderness.dev](https://twitter.com/eli.holderness.dev)

## the isogeny-finding problem

given two elliptic curves between which we know there exists an isogeny, find the mapping that describes it

SIKE and SIDH, which are considered insecure

CSIDH, which should also be considered insecure

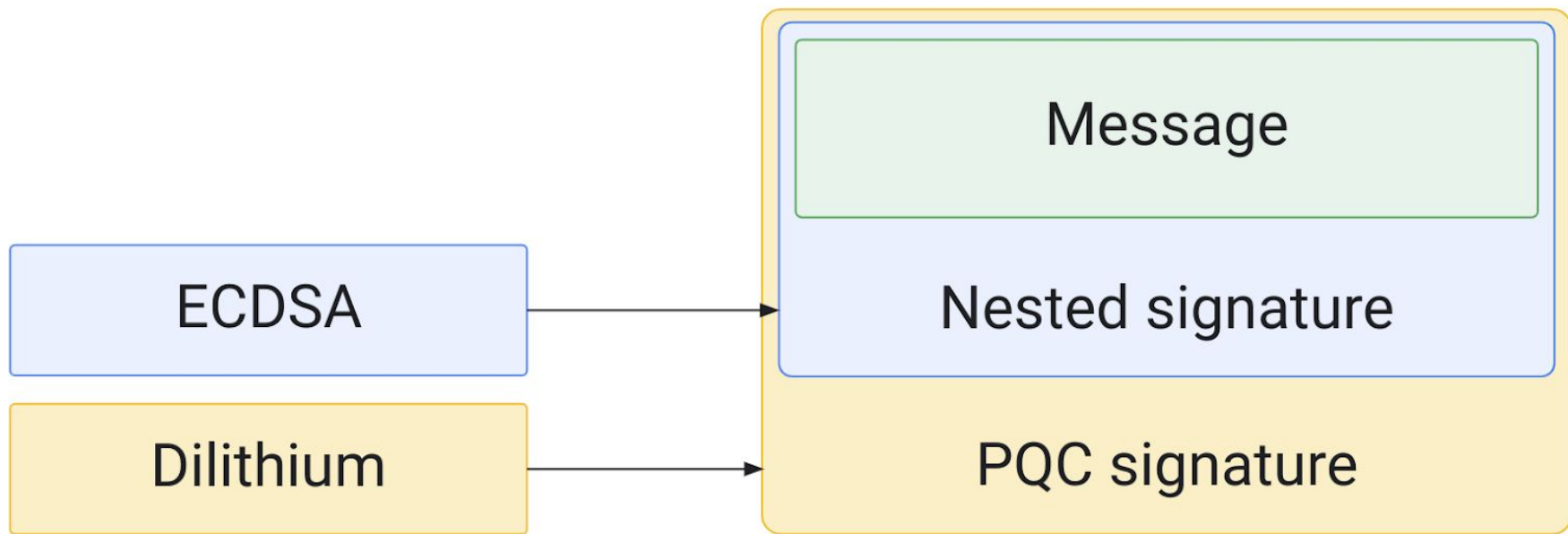
# the Learning With Errors problem

introducing noise to encodings and using probability to decode

# **the Learning With Errors problem**

introducing noise to encodings and using probability to decode

CRYSTALS-Kyber (key encapsulation) and  
CRYSTALS-Dilithium (signatures)



<https://security.googleblog.com/2023/08/toward-quantum-resilient-security-keys.html>

In Chrome, you can now enable  
'X25519Kyber768' for key exchange during TLS





# OPEN QUANTUM SAFE

*software for prototyping  
quantum-resistant cryptography*

<https://openquantumsafe.org/>

[@eli.holderness.dev](https://twitter.com/eli.holderness.dev)

what I hope to see

## what I hope to see

more diverse quantum-resilient cryptosystems

## what I hope to see

more diverse quantum-resilient cryptosystems

quantum-resilient hardware tokens

## what I hope to see

more diverse quantum-resilient cryptosystems

quantum-resilient hardware tokens

wider accessibility & rollout

# wrapping up

how we got here

how we got here

RSA & ECDSA



how we got here

RSA & ECDSA

...and how quantum breaks them

how we got here

RSA & ECDSA

...and how quantum breaks them

what's next



# Asymmetric Cryptography: A Deep Dive

Eli Holderness  
[@eli.holderness.dev](https://eli.holderness.dev)  
[they/them/theirs](#)

# sources: history

<https://www.redhat.com/en/blog/brief-history-cryptography>

# sources: RSA + group theory

<https://ee.stanford.edu/~hellman/publications/24.pdf>

<https://weakdh.org/imperfect-forward-secrecy-ccs15.pdf>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padding\\_\(cryptography\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Padding_(cryptography))

# sources: ECC

<https://scholar.rose-hulman.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1389&context=rhumj>

<http://koclab.cs.ucsb.edu/teaching/ecc/eccPapers/Washington-ch04.pdf>

<http://www.secg.org/sec2-v2.pdf>

# sources: QC & Shor

<https://research.kudelskisecurity.com/2021/08/24/quantum-attack-resource-estimate-using-shors-algorithm-to-break-rsa-vs-dh-dsa-vs-ecc/>

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/quant-ph/9508027.pdf>

<https://www.omnicalculator.com/math/power-modulo>

# sources: PQC

<https://security.googleblog.com/2023/08/toward-quantum-resilient-security-keys.html>

<https://csidh.isogeny.org/>

<https://sike.org/>

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2019/725>

<https://blog.chromium.org/2023/08/protecting-chrome-traffic-with-hybrid.html>

<https://www.ietf.org/archive/id/draft-tls-westerbaan-xyber768d00-02.html>

<https://openquantumsafe.org/>

<https://eprint.iacr.org/2022/1225.pdf>

<https://github.com/signalapp/libsignal/commit/ff09619432e19e96231ebed913fe4433f26ee0d2>

<https://blog.cloudflare.com/post-quantum-to-origins/>

[@eli.holderness.dev](https://eli.holderness.dev)



**worked example with  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$**

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$d_{PK} = 3$$

Pick a random number  $d_{PK}$  from  $[1, \dots, n-1] = [1, \dots, 10]$ .

Let's pick 3. This is our private key.

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Pick a random number  $d_{PK}$  from  $[1, \dots, n-1] = [1, \dots, 10]$ .

Let's pick 3. This is our private key.

Calculate  $Q_{PK} = d_{PK} \times G$ , which in our case is  
 $3 \times (0,4) = (10, 5)$ . This is our public curve point.

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$   
 $d_{PK} = 3$      $Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$

We have some binary message,  $e$ , to sign. Let's say we want to sign the message 01001110 01000100 01000011.

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

We have some binary message,  $e$ , to sign. Let's say we want to sign the message 01001110 01000100 01000011.

The size of our group is 11, or 1101 in binary - 4 bits long.

Take the last 4 bits of our message: 0011. Call it  $z$ .

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Pick another random number  $k$  from  $[1, \dots, n-1]$ . This time let's choose 5. This must be random per signature.

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{\text{PK}} = 3 \quad Q_{\text{PK}} = (10, 5)$$

Pick another random number  $k$  from  $[1, \dots, n-1]$ . This time let's choose 5. This must be random per signature.

Find its inverse  $k^{-1}$  in  $\mathbf{F}_{11}$ , which is 9.

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$x_k = 7, y_k = -5 \quad k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Pick another random number  $k$  from  $[1, \dots, n-1]$ . This time let's choose 5. This must be random per signature.

Find its inverse  $k^{-1}$  in  $\mathbf{F}_{11}$ , which is 9.

Calculate  $k \times G = 5 \times (0,4) = (7, -5)$ . Take its coordinates, so we have  $x_k = 7, y_k = -5$



**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$x_k = 7, y_k = -5 \quad k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Now calculate  $r$  and  $s$ , where

$$r \equiv x_k \bmod n \text{ and } s \equiv k^{-1}(z + r * d_{PK}) \bmod n$$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$x_k = 7, y_k = -5 \quad k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Now calculate  $r$  and  $s$ , where

$$r \equiv x_k \bmod n \text{ and } s \equiv k^{-1}(z + r * d_{PK}) \bmod n$$

This gives us  $r = 7$  and  $s = 7$ , and this is our signature:

$$(r,s) = (7, 7).$$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$x_k = 7, y_k = -5 \quad k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Now calculate  $r$  and  $s$ , where

$$r \equiv x_k \bmod n \text{ and } s \equiv k^{-1}(z + r * d_{PK}) \bmod n$$

This gives us  $r = 7$  and  $s = 7$ , and this is our signature:  
 $(r,s) = (7, 7)$ .

If either  $r$  or  $s$  are 0, we have to go back and pick a different  $k$ .

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$x_k = 7, y_k = -5 \quad k^{-1} = 9 \quad z = 3 \quad d_{PK} = 3 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

We've now generated a signature  $(r,s) = (7, 7)$  over the  
binary message 01001110 01000100 01000011.

Let's verify it!

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$   
 $r = 7, s = 7$        $Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$   
 $z = 3$        $r = 7, s = 7$        $Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$

We have the message, 01001110 01000100 01000011.  
Take the last 4 bits as we did before to get  $z = 3$ .

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$u_1 = 2, u_2 = 5 \quad z = 3 \quad r = 7, s = 7 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

We have the message, 01001110 01000100 01000011.

Take the last 4 bits as we did before to get  $z = 3$ .

Calculate  $u_1 \equiv zs^{-1} \pmod{n}$ :  $u_1 \equiv 3*8 \equiv 2 \pmod{11}$

Calculate  $u_2 \equiv rs^{-1} \pmod{n}$ :  $u_2 \equiv 7*7 \equiv 5 \pmod{11}$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$u_1 = 2, u_2 = 5 \quad z = 3 \quad r = 7, s = 7 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Calculate a new point on the curve,  $(x, y) = u_1 \times G + u_2 \times Q_{PK}$



**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$u_1 = 2, u_2 = 5 \quad z = 3 \quad r = 7, s = 7 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Calculate a new point on the curve,  $(x, y) = u_1 \times G + u_2 \times$

$$u_1 \times G = 2 \times (0,4)$$

$$u_2 \times Q_{PK} = 5 \times (10,5) = 5 \times (3 \times (0,4)) = 4 \times (0,4)$$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$u_1 = 2, u_2 = 5 \quad z = 3 \quad r = 7, s = 7 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Calculate a new point on the curve,  $(x, y) = u_1 \times G + u_2 \times$

$$u_1 \times G = 2 \times (0,4)$$

$$u_2 \times Q_{PK} = 5 \times (10,5) = 5 \times (3 \times (0,4)) = 4 \times (0,4)$$

$$\text{so } (x, y) = 2 \times (0,4) + 4 \times (0,4) = 6 \times (0,4) = (7,5)$$

**worked example with**  $T = (11, 1, 5, (0,4), 11, 1)$

$$u_1 = 2, u_2 = 5 \quad z = 3 \quad r = 7, s = 7 \quad Q_{PK} = (10, 5)$$

Calculate a new point on the curve,  $(x, y) = u_1 \times G + u_2 \times$

$$u_1 \times G = 2 \times Q_{PK}$$

$$u_2 \times Q_{PK} = 5 \times (10, 5) = 5 \times (3 \times (0, 4)) = 4 \times (0, 4)$$

$$\text{so } (x, y) = 2 \times (0, 4) + 4 \times (0, 4) = 6 \times (0, 4) = (7, 5)$$

The signature is valid if  $x = r \bmod n$ , which it is!

