

docente: Nadia Fabrizio

Lab Blockchain (Addendum)

Fintech April-May 2025

OUTLINE

1. ASYMMETRIC KEY EXCHANGE IN BITCOIN 2. ELLLIPTIC CURVES 3. EC DSA

copyright @ 2019 Cefriel - All rights reserved

Asymmetric Key Exchange- Private and Public Keys (Recall the concept)

Asymmetric cryptography is based on two keys associated to an identity:

- a private (secret) key sk, known only by the owner. It is generally used to encrypt a message by the owner, sk{m}
- a public key pk associated to the identity and public. It can decrypt a message encrypted with sk, i.e. pk{sk{m}}
 = m and also sk{pk{m}} = m

Properties

- one way function: unfeasible from sk{m} to get m without pk, easy with pk
- with n nodes, only n pairs (pk_i,sk_i) are needed instead of n2
 anyone can secretly send to "j" by using pk_j{m}
- "j" can prove that they "own" a piece of information by using sk_j{m}

Signature based on Private and Public Keys

Asymmetric cryptography is based on two keys associated to an identity:

- a **private** (secret) key *sk*, known only by the owner. It is generally used to encrypt a message by the owner, **sk**{*m*}
- a **public** key *pk* associated to the identity and public. It can decrypt a message encrypted with *sk*, i.e. *pk{sk{m}} = m* and also *sk{pk{m}} = m*

ES: Diffie Hellman, RSA....

Signature based on Private and Public Keys

Signature of a message (of a transaction) – on top of asymmetric cryptography:

- sig := sign(sk, message)
- isValid := verify(pk, message, sig)

By means of the public key *pk* one can validate the author of a message (**transaction**!)

How are they used in Bitcoin

You generate your own private key from a very large set, from there you derive your public key, and from the public key an address can be derived.



Bitcoin transactions move value from multiple input addresses to multiple output addresses.

Elliptic curves

 In algebraic geometric, an elliptic curves (EC) over R is defined by the (Weirstrass's equation):

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

The curve is non singular if its determinant is non zero, which means

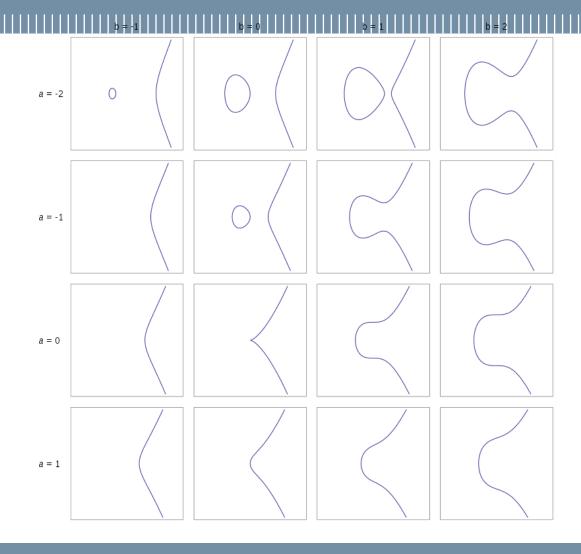
•
$$(-16 4a)^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$$

• EC can be also defined over different field than $\mathbb R$, for instance over Finite Field (Galois)

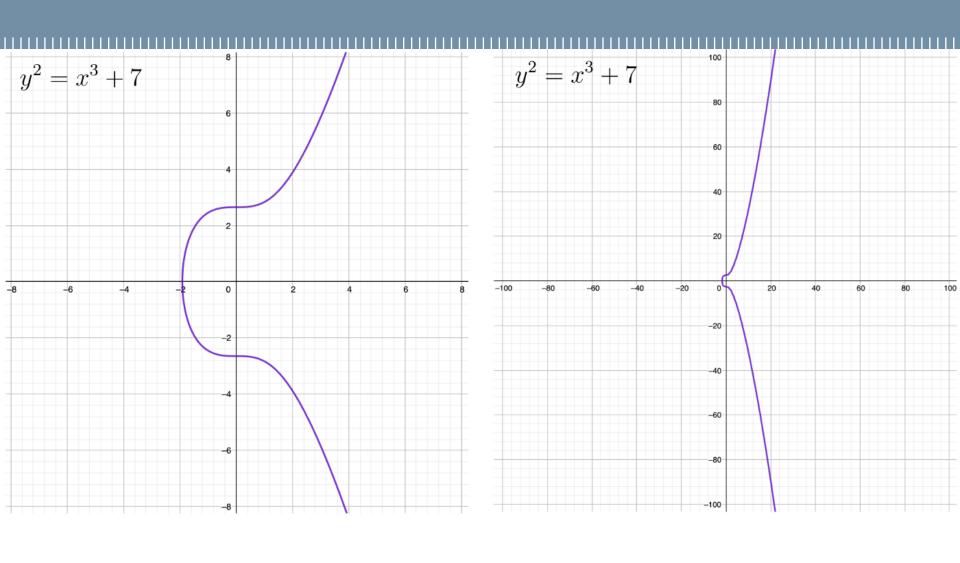
Elliptic C. properties

- It is possible to demonstrate that any elliptic curves is an Abelian Variety of dim 1
 - On any non singular EC, there exists a composition law
 (+) + the infinity closure
- In Bitcoin, it is used with a=-7 and b=10 over a Finite Field
 GF(263)

Elliptic CURVES

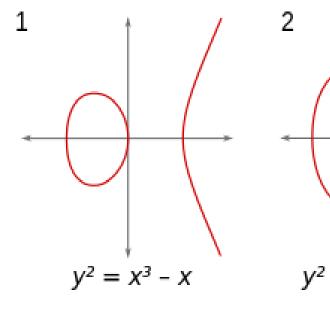


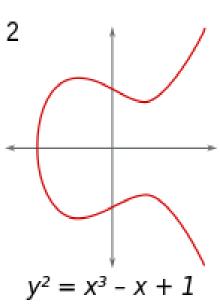
EXAMPLES

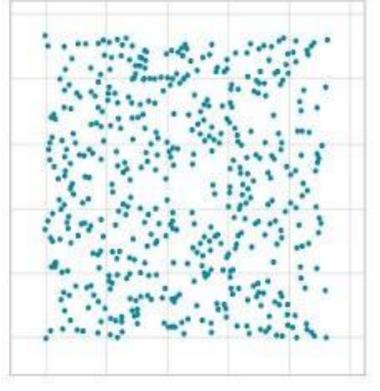


EC over R and over GF(p), where p is

prime.



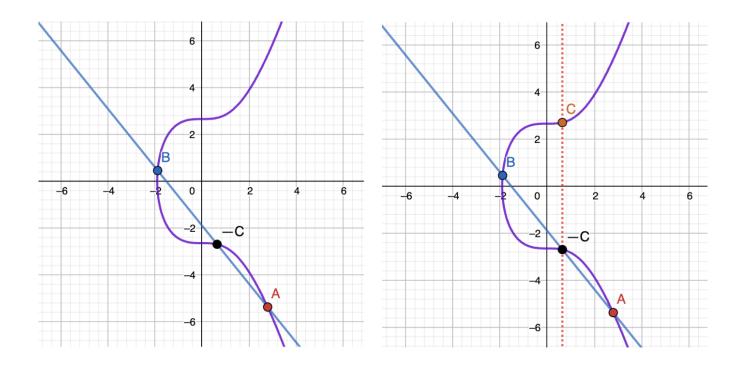




copyright © 2019 Cefriel - All rights reserved

https://medium.com/@blairl marshall/how-does-ecdsawork-in-bitcoin-7819d201a3ec

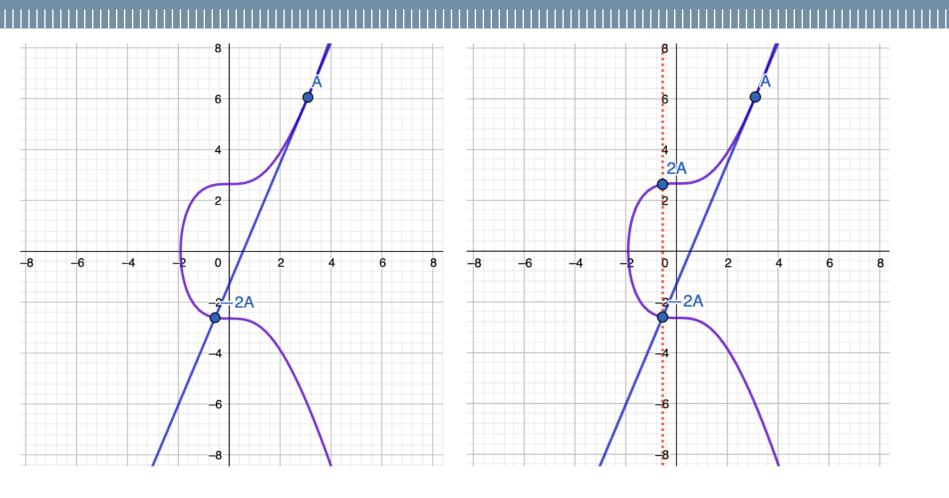
EC: properties-composition Law/SUM

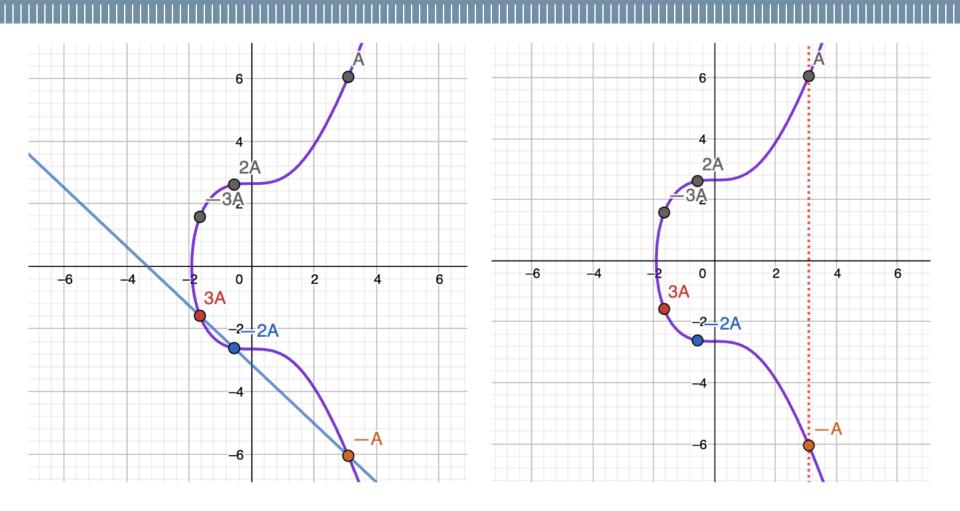


https://youtu.be/mulv8l6v1aE

$$C := A + B$$

Multiply





For example

For example, to get 10A:

$$2A = A + A$$

$$4A = 2A + 2A$$

$$8A = 4A + 4A$$

$$10A = 8A + 2A$$

EC in Bitcoin: Secp256K1

- Bitcoin uses elliptic curves for public key
- It uses a famous EC, the Secp256k1
- C is over Fp (Koblitz curve secp256k1)
- EC is over Fp (Koblitz curve secp256k1)
 - where the finite field Fp is defined by:
- As the b constant is zero, the ax term in the curve equation is always zero, hence the curve equation becomes y2 = x3 + 7.

defined in Standards for Efficient Cryptography (SEC) (Certicom Research, http://www.secg.org/sec2-v2.pdf).

$$y2 = x3 + 7.$$

Point G

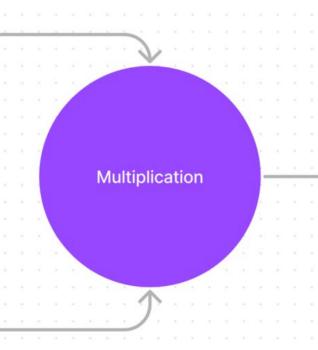
- Predefined point that everyone knows and uses
- Lies on the predefined curve

Mikhail Karavaev

PrivateKey

- Any random integer
- Kept in secret by its "owner"

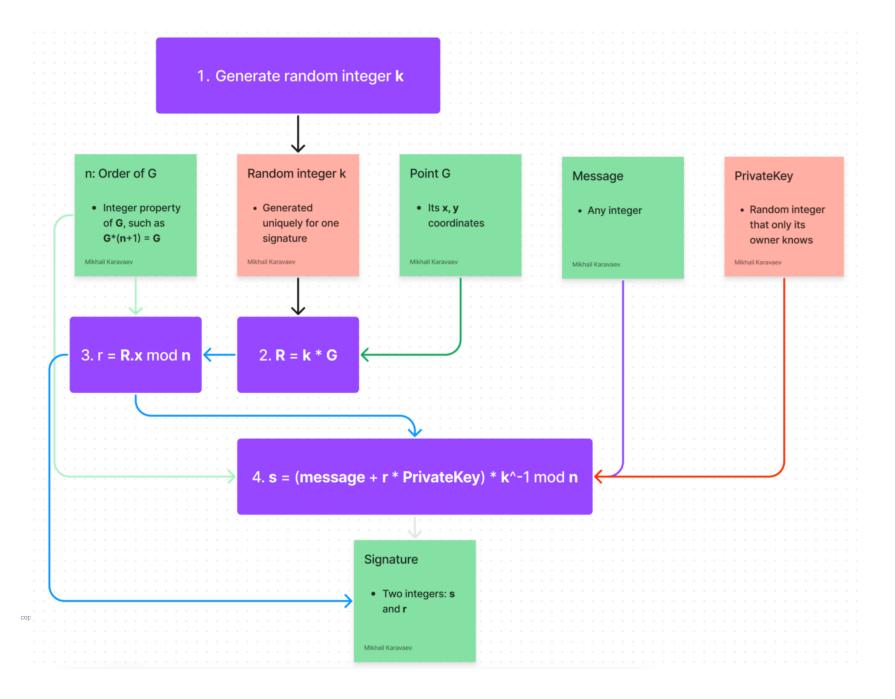
Mikhail Karavaev



PublicKey

- Just point on the curve
- There is no way to exctact the PrivateKey back

Mikhail Karavaev



ADVANTAGES

Security Level (bits)	Ratio of DH Cost : EC Cost
80	3:1
112	6:1
128	10:1
192	32:1
256	64:1
Table 2: Relative Computation Costs of Diffie-Hellman and Elliptic Curves ¹	

https://web.archive.org/web/20090117023500/http://www.nsa.gov/business/programs/elliptic_curve.shtml