

Reference

Friday, April 26, 2024

1:21 PM

1. <https://hackmd.io/@benjaminion/bls12-381>
2. <https://hackmd.io/@jpw/bn254>

Pairing friendly:

- A random EC is not pairing friendly with high probability
- BLS12-381 was constructed to be pairing friendly

Why pairing friendly?

Verifier step:

$$\text{Pairing1} = \text{Pairing2} + \text{Pairing3} + \text{Pairing4}$$

Naming:

- 12 -> embedding degree
- 381 -> # bits of field modulus q

Curve equation and parameters:

$$y^2 = x^3 + 4$$

$X = -0xd201000000010000$ (not x in equation)

Field modulus $q = \frac{1}{3}(x-1)^2(x^4 - x^2 + 1) + X$

Subgroup size $r = x^4 - x^2 + 1$

Field extension

"12" in BLS12-381 also represents degree of field extension.

$\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}}$: 12th extension of \mathbb{F}_q wait what ???

Look at a simpler example : Constructing \mathbb{F}_{q^2} from \mathbb{F}_q .

$$\mathbb{F}_q = \{0, 1, \dots, q-1\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{F}_{q^2} &= \{a_0 + a_1 x \mid a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{F}_q\} \\ &= \{(a_0, a_1) \mid a_0, a_1 \in \mathbb{F}_q\}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}+ : (a, b) + (c, d) &= a + bx + c + dx \\ &= (a+c) + (b+d)x \\ &= (a+c, b+d)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\cdot : (a, b) \cdot (c, d) &= (a+bx)(c+dx) \\ &= ac + adx + bcx + \underbrace{bdx^2}_{???}\end{aligned}$$

How to handle x^2 term ? Rule: $x^2 + 1 = 0$
 $x^2 = -1$

$$\begin{aligned}\Rightarrow (a, b) \cdot (c, d) &= ac + (ad+bc)x - bd \\ &= (ac-bd) + (ad+bc)x \\ &= (ac-bd, ad+bc)\end{aligned}$$

Looks familiar ? This is \mathbb{C}

General criteria for the "rule":

1. Extension degree is k , then "rule" is degree k polynomial.
2. "rule" must be irreducible (can't be further factored)

↑

kind of like prime number

Note that we can't further extend C , since there isn't any irreducible polynomial in C .

(Fundamental theorem of algebra)

In contrast, we often can find irreducible poly in finite field.

If we find degree k irreducible poly:

$$\mathbb{F}_q \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_q$$

$$\mathbb{F}_q^k = \{a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{k-1}x^{k-1} \mid a_0, \dots, a_{k-1} \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$$

$$= \{(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}) \mid a_0, \dots, a_{k-1} \in \mathbb{F}_q\}$$

The curves

There are TWO curves in BLS12-381:

1. $E(\mathbb{F}_q): y^2 = x^3 + 4$ over \mathbb{F}_q

2. $E'(\mathbb{F}_{q^2}): y^2 = x^3 + 4(1+i)$ over \mathbb{F}_{q^2}

Above curve_order: Use Hasse's theorem

N : # points on curve E over \mathbb{F}_q , then:

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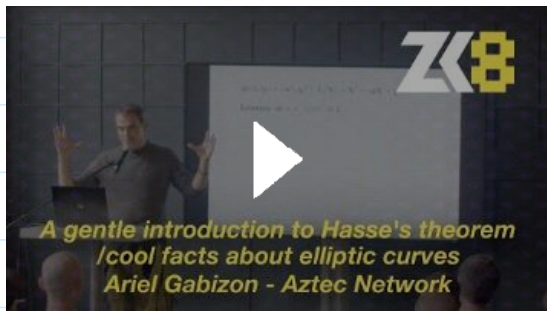
$$|N - (q+1)| \leq 2\sqrt{q}$$

$$-2\sqrt{q} \leq N - q - 1 \leq 2\sqrt{q}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q+1 - 2\sqrt{q} \leq N \leq q+1 + 2\sqrt{q} \\ \approx q & & \approx q \end{array}$$

Further study:

[ZK8: An introduction to Hasse's theorem/cool facts about elliptic curves – Ariel Gabizon - Aztec](#)



Conclusion:

- curve-order of $E(F_q)$: $\sim q$
- curve-order of $E(F_{q^2})$: $\sim q^2$

The subgroups

Bilinear pairing : $G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow G_T$

should have same order r

But:

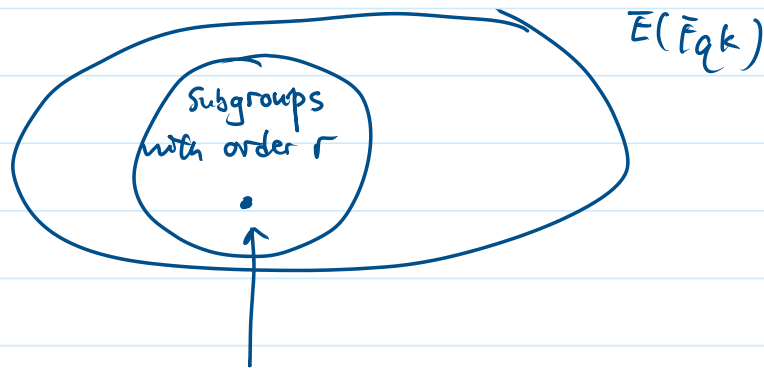
a pre-defined prime with ≤ 255 bit in size

But:

a pre-defined prime with ≈ 255 bit in size

$E(\mathbb{F}_q)$ only has 1 large subgroup of order r ,
can define G_1 here but need something larger to
define G_2 .

We can keep extending $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$ to $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^k})$, so
that $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^k})$ contains other subgroups of order r .



One subgroup will contain only points
with trace = 0, this subgroup is G_2 .
↑

involved math, can think of it as
"a special property".

That k in $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^k})$ is "embedding degree". In
BLS12-381, it is 12 $\rightarrow E(\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}})$ is good enough
to define G_2 .

$\rightarrow G_1$ and G_2 share the same O

Now we have:

1. G_1 of order r from $E(\mathbb{F}_q)$
2. G_2 of order r from $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}})$

$G_1 \times G_2 \rightarrow$ we can do pairing

Twists

Motivation: Computation in $\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}}$ is hard.

Introducing twist:

Transform $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}})$ into a curve defined over lower degree field.

BLS12-381 uses "sextic twist": reduce the degree of field extension by a factor of 6.

$\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$, new subgroup is isomorphic to G_2

How sextic twist works?

work in progress

Find u s.t. $u^6 = (1+i)^{-1}$

Define $(x, y) \rightarrow (\frac{x}{u^2}, \frac{y}{u^3})$

Then curve transformation:

$$E: y^2 = x^3 + 4 \rightarrow E': \left(\frac{y}{u^3}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{x}{u^2}\right)^3 + 4$$

$$\frac{y^2}{u^6} = \frac{x^3}{u^6} + 4$$

$$\frac{y^2}{u^6} = \frac{x^3}{u^6} + 4$$

$$y^2 = x^3 + \underline{4 \cdot u^6} \quad ?$$

I haven't seen this written down anywhere--but attempting to decode section 3 of [this](#)--if we find a u such that $u^6 = (1+i)^{-1}$, then we can define our twisting transformation as $(x, y) \rightarrow (x/u^2, y/u^3)$. This transforms our original curve $E: y^2 = x^3 + 4$ into the curve $E': y^2 = x^3 + 4/u^6 = x^3 + 4(1+i)$. E and E' look different, but are actually the same object presented with respect to coefficients in different base fields^[10].

$$y^2 = x^3 + 4 \cdot (1+i)^{-1}$$

Anyway, the idea of sextic twist is to simplify the computation of G_2 , so we only work in $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$ instead of $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^{12}})$.

Now we have:

1. $G_1 \subset E(\mathbb{F}_q)$, $E: y^2 = x^3 + 4$
2. $G_2 \subset E(\mathbb{F}_{q^2})$, $E': y^2 = x^3 + 4(1+i)$

In G_1 , points are pair of integers: (a, b)

In G_2 , points are pair of complex numbers: $((a, b), (c, d))$

Pairings

$$e: \begin{matrix} P & Q \\ G_1 & \times & G_2 \end{matrix} \rightarrow G_T \quad e(P, Q)$$

↑ ↑ ↑

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 e: G_1 \times G_2 & \rightarrow & G_T & & e(P, Q) \\
 \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow & & \\
 E(F_q) & E'(F_{q^2}) & E(F_{q^{12}}) & &
 \end{array}$$

Properties:

$$1. e(P, Q+R) = e(P, Q) \cdot e(P, R)$$

$$2. e(P+S, R) = e(P, R) \cdot e(S, R)$$

Combine 1 and 2:

$$\begin{aligned}
 e([a]P, [b]Q) &= e(P, [b]Q)^a \\
 &\quad \uparrow \\
 &\quad \text{Scalar multiplication} \\
 &= e(P, Q)^{ab} \\
 &= e(P, [a]Q)^b \\
 &= e([b]P, [a]Q)
 \end{aligned}$$

Insight:

(Still black box lol)

Pairing \approx multiply G_1 -point and G_2 -point

Embedding degree

field-modulus

$$\text{Embedding degree } k = \text{smallest integer s.t. } 1 \mid q^k - 1$$

\downarrow
 $q^k - 1$
 1

predefined prime, order of G_1 and G_2

$$r \mid q^{12} - 1$$

BLS signature

(The L is the same L as in BLS12-381; the B and the S are different.)

keygen:

private key : (sk) , random number between 1 and $r-1$

public key : $(pk) = [sk] g_1 \rightarrow G_1$ point

chosen generator of G_1

protected by ECDLP

Signing:

Map message m onto a point in G_2

1. hash m to integer mod q
2. check if point with that x -coordinate is on curve.
If not, $m += 1$ and try again.
3. multiply resulting point by $G_2 \Rightarrow H(m)$ as G_2 point

Sign message : $\sigma = [sk] H(m) \rightarrow G_2$ point

Sign message: $\sigma = [sk] H(m) \rightarrow G_2 \text{ point}$
↑
protected by ECDLP

Verification:

Given (m, σ, pk) , verify if sk corresponds to pk

$$e(g_1, \sigma) == e(pk, H(m))$$

↑
pairing in $\mathbb{P}G\text{-ecc.bls12-381}$

correctness:

$pk \rightarrow G_1 \text{ point}$

$$e(pk, H(m)) = e(\underbrace{[sk] g_1}_{G_1 \text{ point}}, \underbrace{H(m)}_{G_2 \text{ point}})$$

$$= e(g_1, H(m))^{sk}$$

$$= e(g_1, \underbrace{[sk] H(m)}_{\rightarrow \sigma})$$

$$= e(g_1, \sigma)$$

Aggregation:

- Verifying a single m signed by n parties requires 2 pairings
- Verifying n messages signed by n parties requires $n+1$ pairings

Example:

$$\sigma_{agg} = \sigma_1 + \sigma_2 + \dots + \sigma_n \rightarrow G_2 \text{ point}$$

$$pk_{agg} = pk_1 + pk_2 + \dots + pk_n \rightarrow G_1 \text{ point}$$

\Rightarrow just verify $e(g_1, \delta_{agg}) = e(pk_{agg}, H(m_1))$

BN254 is used in Ethereum precompiled, so it is widely used for on-chain verification for schemes such as Groth16 and PlonK.

BN254 == BN128. 254 means 254-bit prime modulus associated to the base field. 128 means it provides 2^{128} bit of security.

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

BN curve

$$y^2 = x^3 + b \text{ over } \mathbb{F}_p, \quad p = 36x^4 + 36x^3 + 24x^2 + 6x + 1$$

↑

parameter X , not x in curve equation

X also determines:

$$t = 6x^2 + 1, \quad \text{"trace of Frobenius"}$$

Embedding degree = 12

How to find b from parameter X

1. Iterate through b s.t. $b+1$ is a quadratic residue mod p
2. For such b , the point $G = (1, \sqrt{b+1})$ lies on $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$
3. Check whether $rG = 0$, i.e. the point G has order r
4. If $rG \neq 0$, iterate to next b .

$G = (1, 2)$ when $b=3$

```
ret2basic@PwnieIsland: ~80x24
ret2basic@PwnieIsland:~$ python3
Python 3.10.12 (main, Nov 20 2023, 15:14:05) [GCC 11.4.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> from py_ecc.bn128 import G1
>>> G1
(1, 2)
>>>
```

Field extension towers

Represent $\mathbb{F}_{p^{12}}$ as a specific tower of field extensions of \mathbb{F}_p :

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^2} = \mathbb{F}_p[u] / (u^2 - \beta) \rightarrow u^2 - \beta = 0$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^6} = \mathbb{F}_{p^2}[v] / (v^3 - x_i) \rightarrow v^3 - x_i = 0$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^{12}} = \mathbb{F}_{p^6}(w) / (w^2 - v) \rightarrow w^2 - v = 0$$

- β is a quadratic non-residue in \mathbb{F}_p
 $\Rightarrow x^2 - \beta$ is irreducible over $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$
- x_i is quadratic non-residue and cubic non-residue in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}
 $\Rightarrow x^6 - x_i$ is irreducible over $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}[x]$

Further reading

Thursday, May 30, 2024 3:34 PM

1. Pairing for beginners:
<https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5fdbb09f31d71c1227082339/t/5ff394720493bd28278889c6/1609798774687/PairingsForBeginners.pdf>
2. BN254 For The Rest Of Us <https://hackmd.io/@jpw/bn254>