

# The isogeny cycle seminar

Luca De Feo

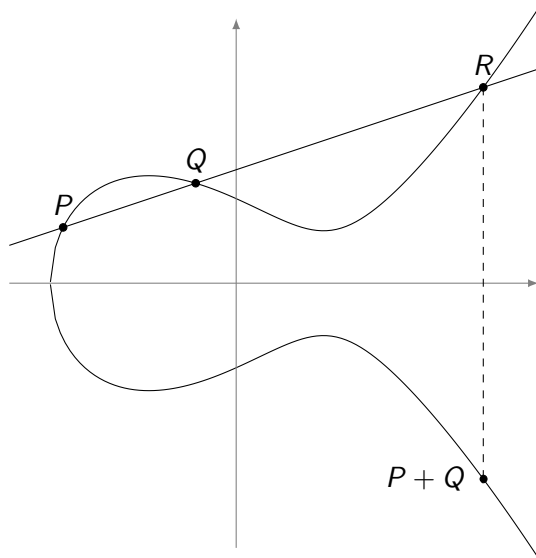
Université de Versailles & Inria Saclay

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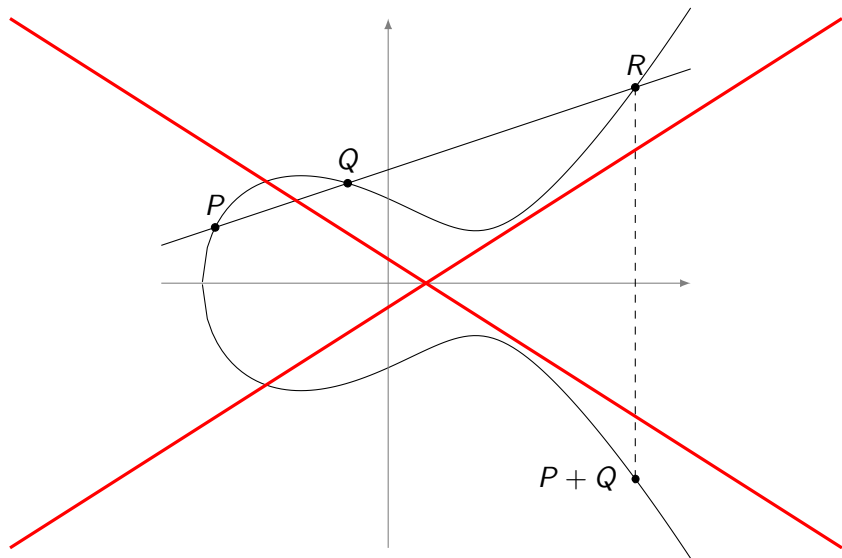
# Elliptic curves

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

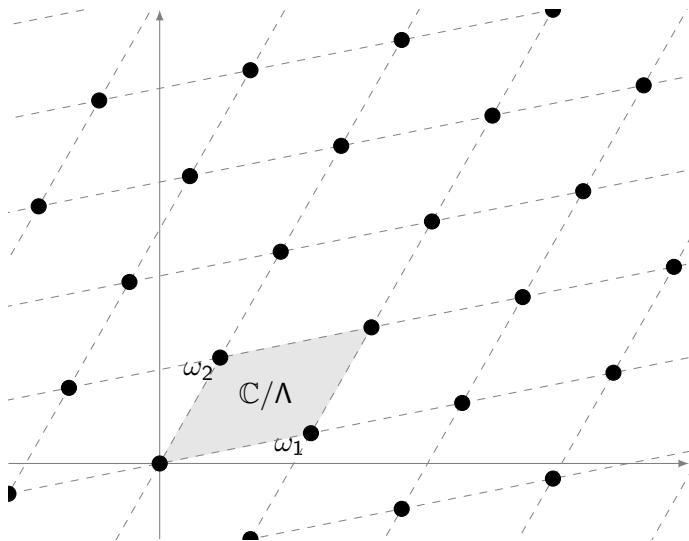


# Elliptic curves

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



# Elliptic curves

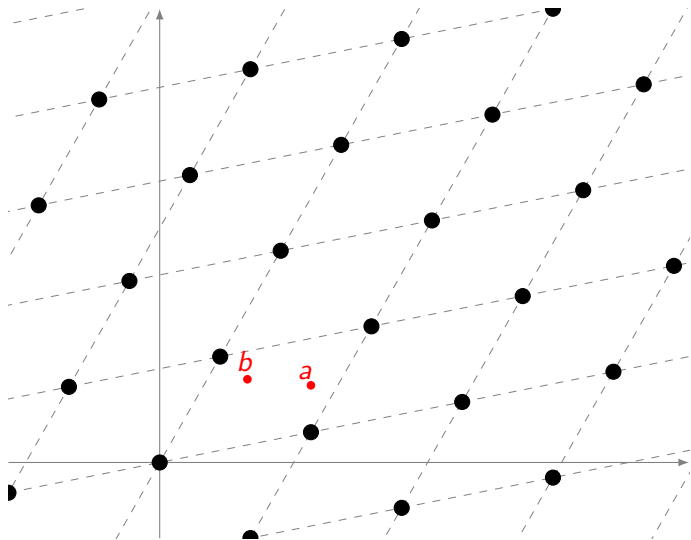


Let  $\omega_1, \omega_2 \in \mathbb{C}$  be linearly independent complex numbers. Set

$$\Lambda = \omega_1\mathbb{Z} \oplus \omega_2\mathbb{Z}$$

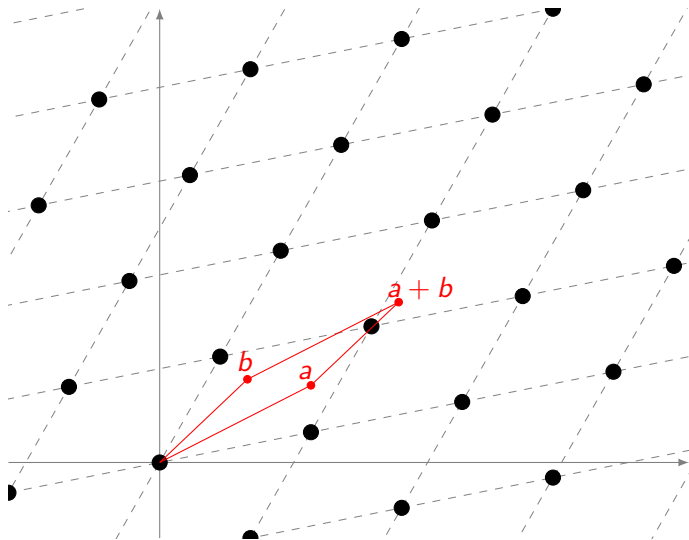
$\mathbb{C}/\Lambda$  is an elliptic curve.

# Elliptic curves



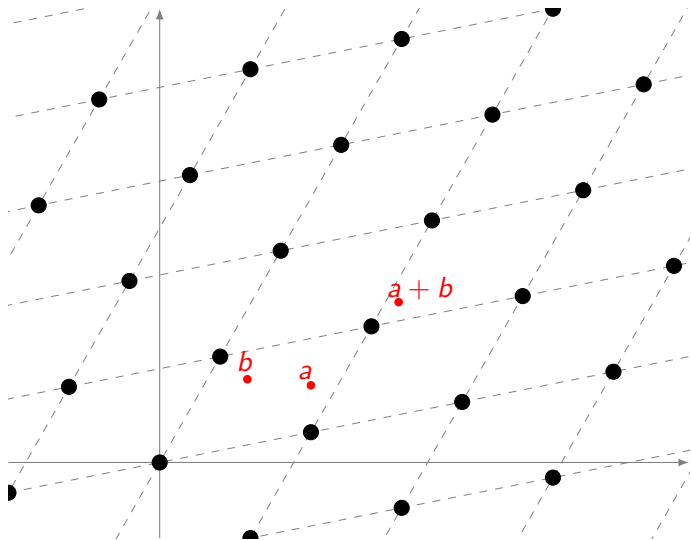
Addition law  
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# Elliptic curves



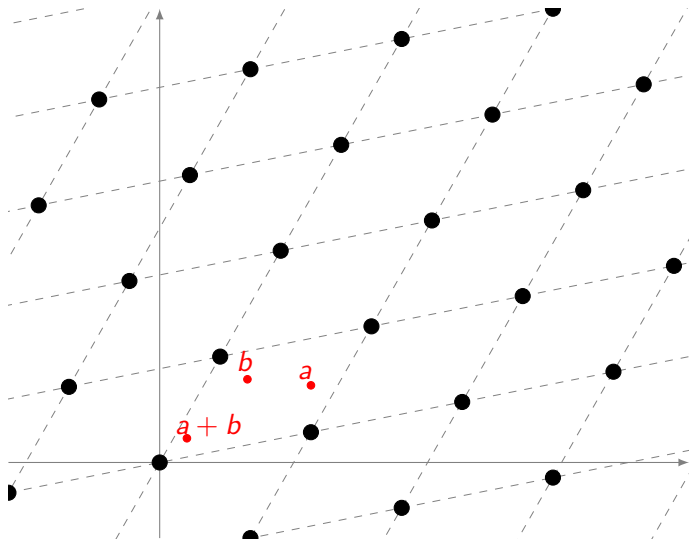
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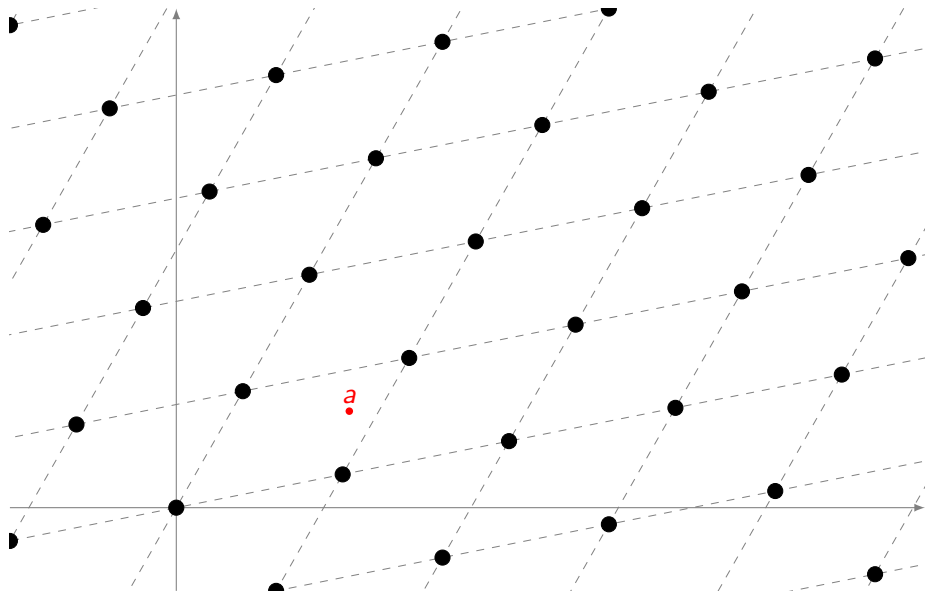
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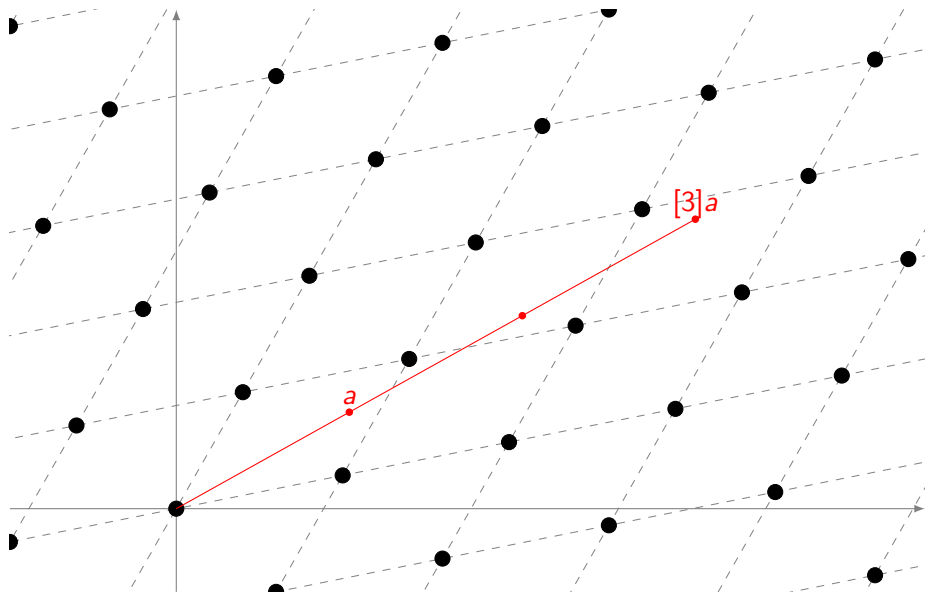
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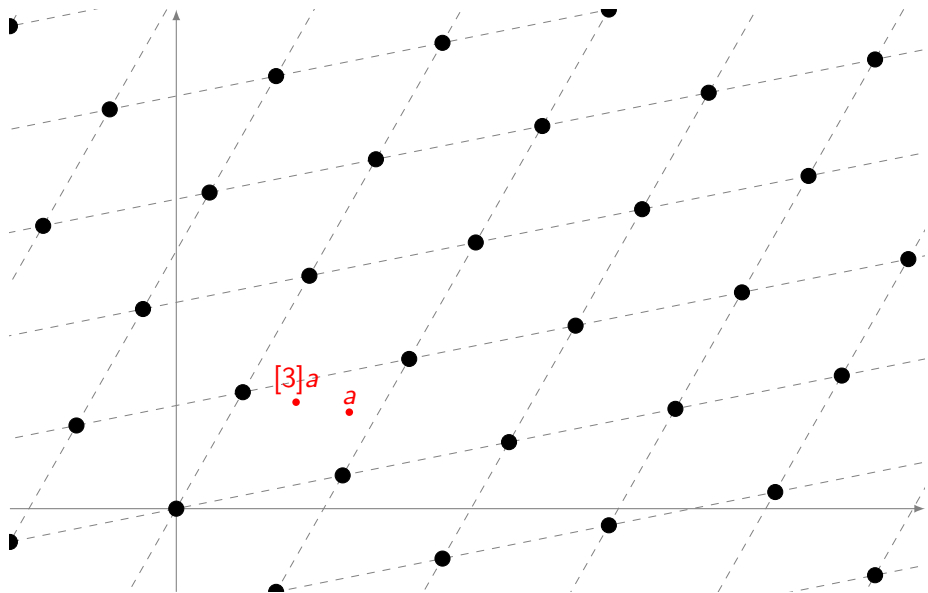
# Multiplication



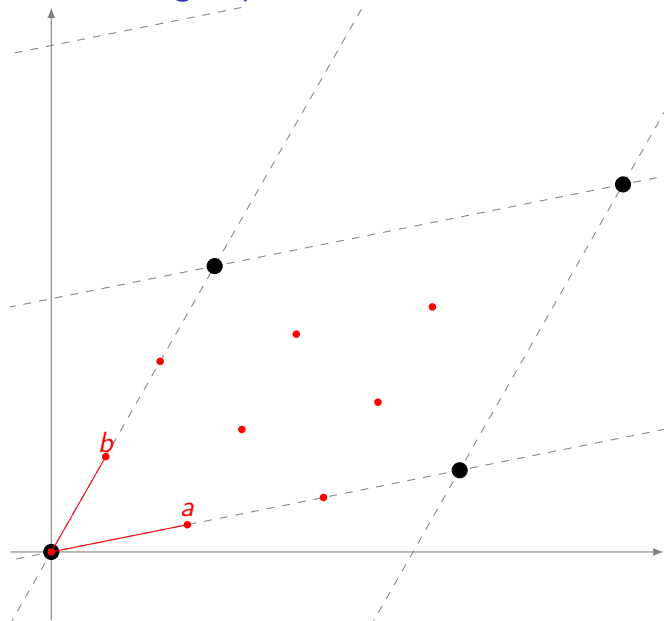
# Multiplication



# Multiplication



## Torsion subgroups



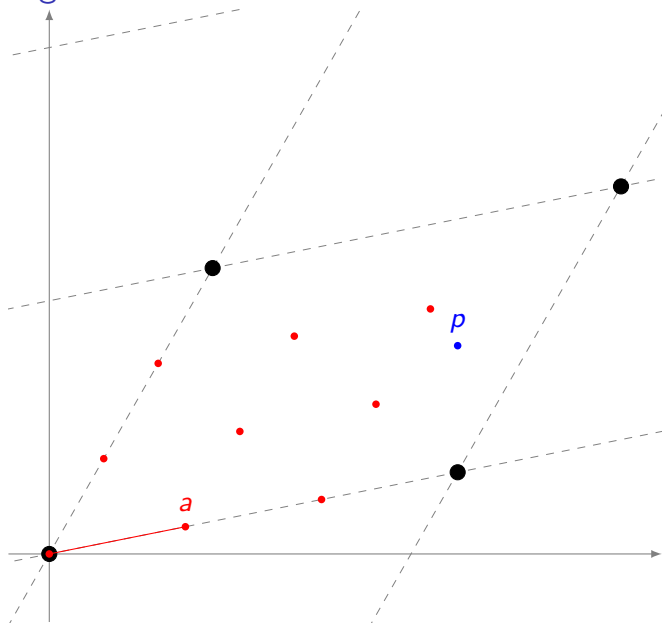
The  $l$ -torsion subgroup is made up by the points

$$\left( \frac{i\omega_1}{l}, \frac{j\omega_2}{l} \right)$$

It is a group of rank two

$$E[l] = \langle a, b \rangle \\ \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/l\mathbb{Z})^2$$

# Isogenies



Let  $a \in \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_1$  be an  $\ell$ -torsion point, and let

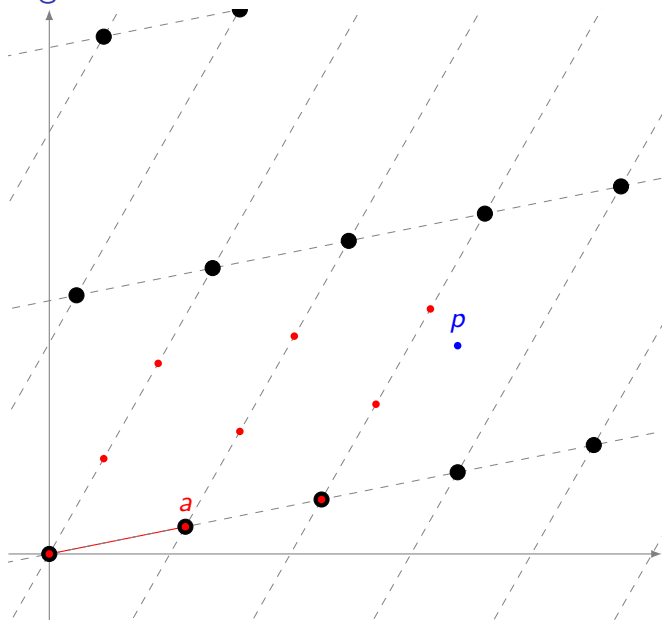
$$\Lambda_2 = a\mathbb{Z} \oplus \Lambda_1$$

Then  $\Lambda_1 \subset \Lambda_2$  and we define a degree  $\ell$  cover

$$\phi : \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_2$$

$\phi$  is a morphism of complex Lie groups and is called an **isogeny**.

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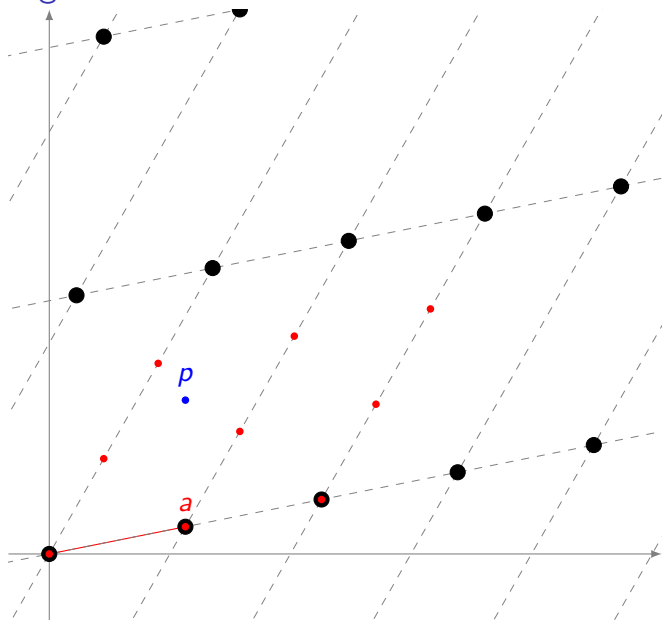
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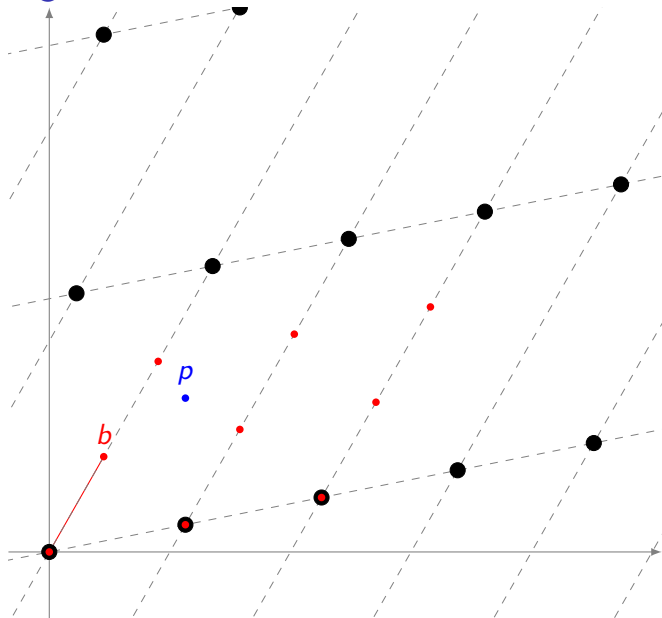
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# Isogenies



Taking a point  $b$  not in the kernel of  $\phi$ , we obtain a new degree  $\ell$  cover

$$\hat{\phi} : \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}/\Lambda_3$$

The composition

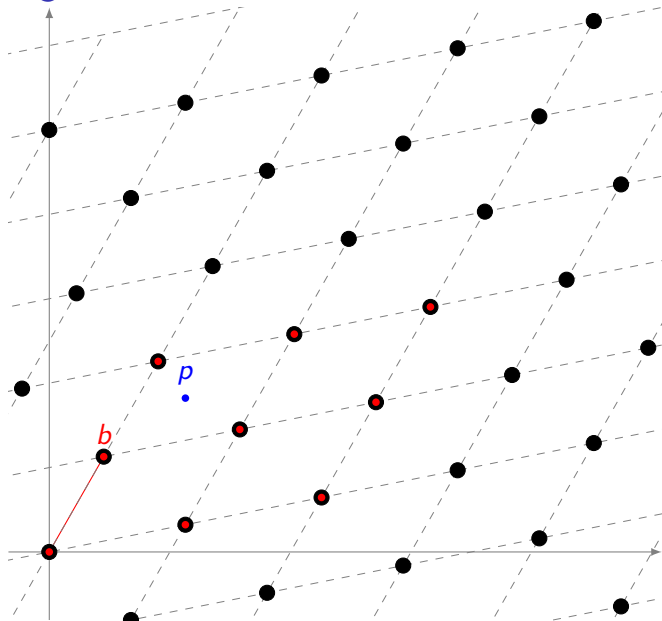
$\hat{\phi} \circ \phi$  has degree  $\ell^2$  and is

homothetic to the multiplication by  $\ell$  map.

$\hat{\phi}$  is called the dual isogeny of  $\phi$ .



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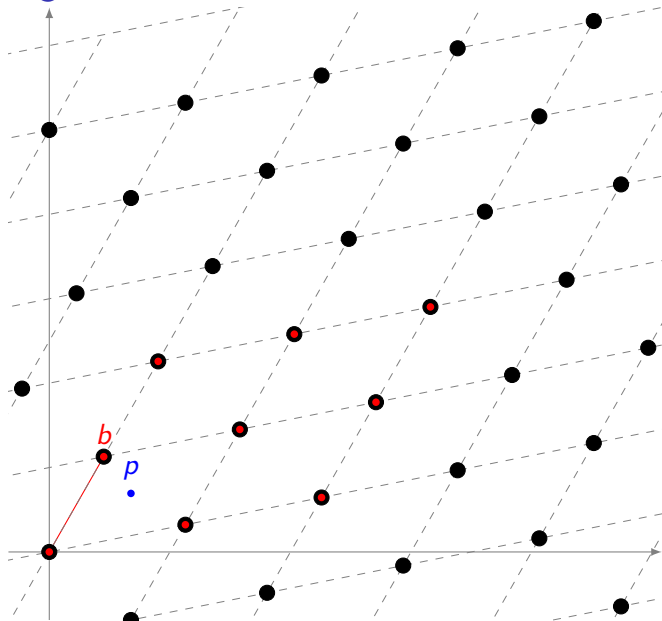
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## Isogenies over arbitrary fields

Isogenies are just **the right notion of morphism** for elliptic curves

- Surjective group morphisms.
- Algebraic maps (i.e., defined by polynomials).

(Separable) isogenies  $\Leftrightarrow$  finite subgroups:

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

The kernel  $H$  determines the image curve  $E'$  up to isomorphism

$$E/H \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} E'.$$

### Isogeny degree

Neither of these definitions is quite correct, but they *nearly* are:

- The degree of  $\phi$  is the cardinality of  $\ker \phi$ .
- (Bisson) the degree of  $\phi$  is the time needed to compute it.

## The computational point of view

In practice: an isogeny  $\phi$  is just a rational fraction (or maybe two)

$$\frac{N(x)}{D(x)} = \frac{x^n + \dots + n_1x + n_0}{x^{n-1} + \dots + d_1x + d_0} \in k(x), \quad \text{with } n = \deg \phi,$$

and  $D(x)$  vanishes on  $\ker \phi$ .

### The explicit isogeny problem

Input: A *description* of the isogeny (e.g, its kernel).

Output: The curve  $E/H$  and the rational fraction  $N/D$ .

Lower bound:  $\Omega(n)$ .

### The isogeny evaluation problem

Input: A *description* of the isogeny  $\phi$ , a point  $P \in E(k)$ .

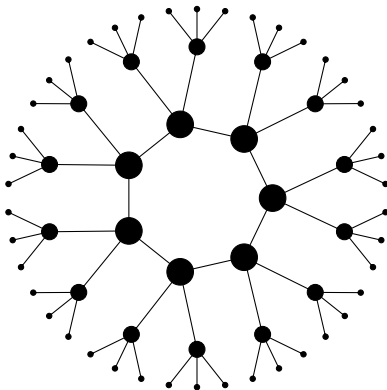
Output: The curve  $E/H$  and  $\phi(P)$ .

# Isogeny graphs

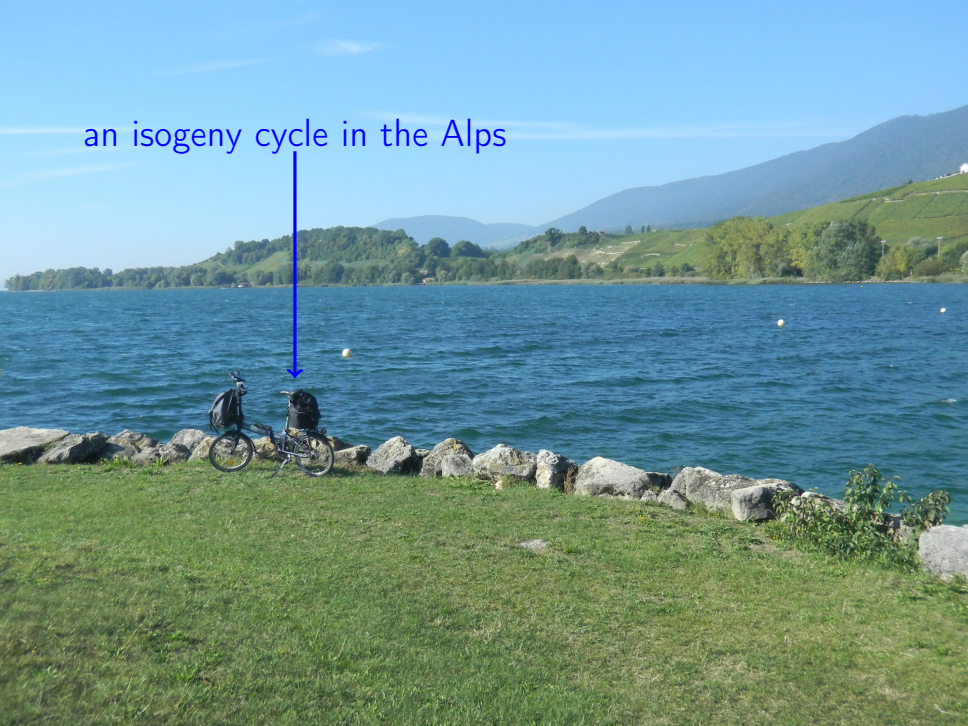
We want to study the graph of elliptic curves with isogenies **up to isomorphism**. We say two isogenies  $\phi, \phi'$  are **isomorphic** if:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\phi} & E' \\ & \searrow \phi' & \downarrow \} \\ & & E' \end{array}$$

**Example:** Finite field, ordinary case, graph of isogenies of degree 3.



an isogeny cycle in the Alps



# Structure of the graph<sup>1</sup>

## Theorem (Serre-Tate)

*Two curves are isogenous over a finite field  $k$  if and only if they have the same number of points on  $k$ .*

The graph of isogenies of prime degree  $\ell \neq p$

### Ordinary case

- Nodes can have degree  $0, 1, 2$  or  $\ell + 1$ .
- Connected components form so called **volcanoes**.

### Supersingular case

- The graph is  $\ell + 1$ -regular.
- There is a **unique connected component** made of all supersingular curves with the same number of points.

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<sup>1</sup>Kohel 1996; Fouquet and Morain 2002.

## Expander graphs

Let  $G$  be a finite undirected  $k$ -regular graph.

- $k$  is the **trivial eigenvalue** of the adjacency matrix of  $G$ .
- $G$  is called an **expander** if all non-trivial eigenvalues satisfy  $|\lambda| \leq (1 - \delta)k$ .
- It is called a **Ramanujan graph** if  $|\lambda| \leq 2\sqrt{k-1}$ . This is **optimal**.

In practice, in an expander graph **random walks** of length  $O(\frac{1}{\delta} \log|G|)$  land anywhere in the graph with probability distribution **close to uniform**.

### Isogeny graphs and expansion

- The graph of **ordinary isogenies** of degree less than  $(\log 4q)^B$  is an **expander** if  $B > 2$ .<sup>a</sup>
- The graph of **supersingular isogenies** of prime degree  $\ell \neq p$  is **Ramanujan**.<sup>b</sup>

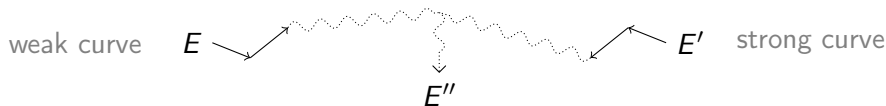
<sup>a</sup>Jao, Miller, and Venkatesan 2009.

<sup>b</sup>Pizer 1990, 1998.



# Isogeny walks and cryptanalysis<sup>3</sup>

Recall: Having a **weak DLP** is not isogeny invariant.



## Fourth root attacks

- Start two random walks from the two curves and wait for a collision.
- Over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , the average size of an isogeny class is  $h_\Delta \sim \sqrt{q}$ .
- A collision is expected after  $O(\sqrt{h_\Delta}) = O(q^{\frac{1}{4}})$  steps.

**Note:** Can be used to build **trapdoor systems**<sup>2</sup>.

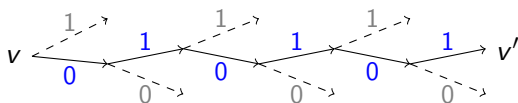
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<sup>2</sup>Teske 2006.

<sup>3</sup>Steven D. Galbraith 1999; Steven D. Galbraith, Hess, and Smart 2002; Charles, K. E. Lauter, and Goren 2009; Bisson and Sutherland 2011.

## Random walks and hash functions

Any expander graph gives rise to a hash function.



$$H(010101) = v'$$

- Fix a starting vertex  $v$ ;
- The value to be hashed determines a random path to  $v'$ ;
- $v'$  is the hash.

### Provably secure hash functions

- Use the Ramanujan graph of **supersingular 2-isogenies**;<sup>a</sup>
- **Collision resistance** = hardness of finding cycles in the graph;
- **Preimage resistance** = hardness of finding a path from  $v$  to  $v'$ .

<sup>a</sup>Charles, K. E. Lauter, and Goren 2009.

# The endomorphism ring

- An **endomorphism** is an isogeny  $\phi : E \rightarrow E$ .
- The endomorphisms form a ring denoted  $\text{End}_k(E)$ .

## Theorem

$\mathbb{Q} \otimes \text{End}_{\bar{k}}(E)$  is isomorphic to one of the following

ordinary case:  $\mathbb{Q}$  (only possible if  $\text{char } k = 0$ ),

ordinary case (complex multiplication): an **imaginary quadratic field**,

supersingular case: a **quaternion algebra** (only possible if  $\text{char } k \neq 0$ ).

## Corollary

$\text{End}(E)$  is isomorphic to an order  $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{Q} \otimes \text{End}(E)$ .

# Isogenies and endomorphisms

## Theorem (Serre-Tate)

Two elliptic curves  $E, E'$  are isogenous if and only if

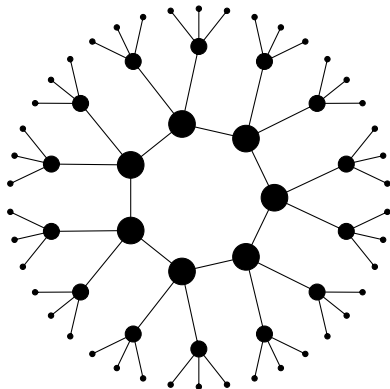
$$\mathbb{Q} \otimes \text{End}(E) \simeq \mathbb{Q} \otimes \text{End}(E').$$

**Example:** Finite field, ordinary case, 3-isogeny graph.

$\text{End}(E)$



bigger node = bigger  $\text{End}(E)$



## The ordinary case

Let  $\text{End}(E) = \mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$  be the endomorphism ring of  $E$ . Define

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

### Definition (The class group)

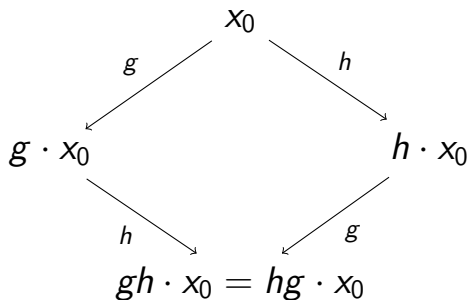
The **class group** of  $\mathcal{O}$  is

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

- It is a **finite abelian** group.
- It arises as the Galois group of an abelian extension of  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{d})$ .
- **Isogeny (classes) = ideal (classes)**: The class group acts faithfully and transitively on the isogeny graph.

## DH-like key exchange based on (semi)-group actions

Let  $G$  be an abelian group acting (faithfully and transitively) on a set  $X$ .



# Hidden Subgroup Problem

Let  $G$  be a group,  $X$  a set and  $f : G \rightarrow X$ . We say that  $f$  **hides** a subgroup  $H \subset G$  if

$$f(g_1) = f(g_2) \Leftrightarrow g_1H = g_2H.$$

## Definition (Hidden Subgroup Problem (HSP))

**Input:**  $G, X$  as above, an oracle computing  $f$ .

**Output:** generators of  $H$ .

## Theorem (Schorr, Josza)

*If  $G$  is abelian, then*

- $HSP \in \text{poly}_{BQP}(\log |G|)$ ,
- using  $\text{poly}(\log |G|)$  queries to the oracle.

# Post-Quantum cryptography

## Known reductions

- **Discrete Log** on  $G$  of size  $p \rightarrow$  **HSP** on  $(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})^2$ ,
- hence DH, ECDH, etc. are broken by quantum computers.
- **Semigroup-DH** on  $G \rightarrow$  **HSP** on the **dihedral group**  $G \rtimes \mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z}$ .

## Quantum algorithms for dihedral HSP

Kuperberg<sup>a</sup>:  $2^{O(\sqrt{\log |G|})}$  quantum time, space and query complexity.

Regev<sup>b</sup>:  $L_{|G|}(\frac{1}{2}, \sqrt{2})$  quantum time and query complexity,  
 $\text{poly}(\log(|G|))$  quantum space.

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<sup>a</sup>Kuperberg 2005.

<sup>b</sup>Regev 2004.

**Remark (Regev)**: certain lattice-based cryptosystems are also vulnerable to the HSP for dihedral groups.

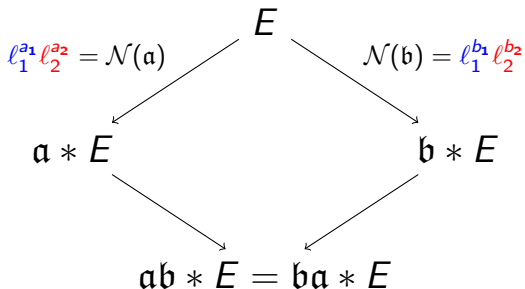


## DH using class groups<sup>4</sup>

Public data:

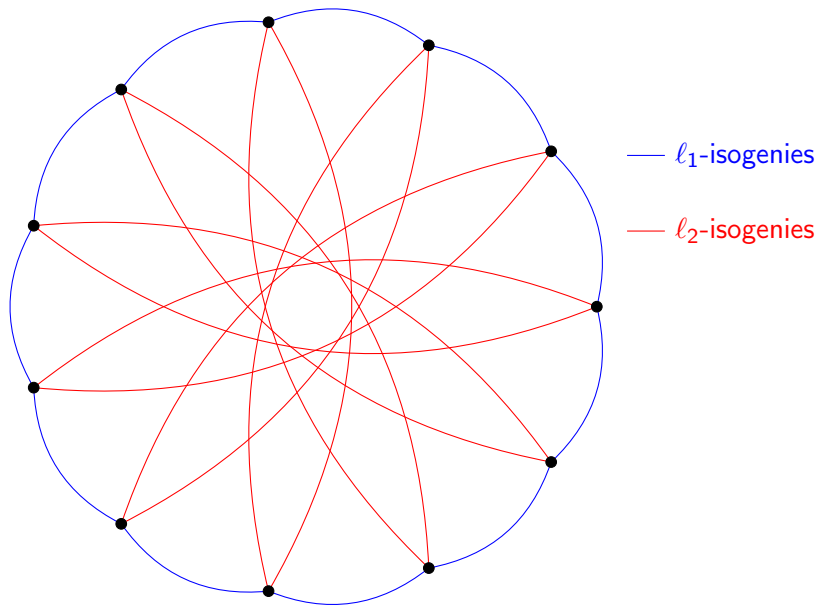
- $E/\mathbb{F}_p$  ordinary elliptic curve with complex multiplication field  $\mathbb{K}$ ,
- primes  $\ell_1, \ell_2$  not dividing  $\text{Disc}(E)$  and s.t.  $\left(\frac{D_{\mathbb{K}}}{\ell_i}\right) = 1$ .
- A *direction* on the isogeny graph (i.e. an element of the class group).

Secret data: Random walks  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}$  in the  $\ell_i$ -isogeny graphs.

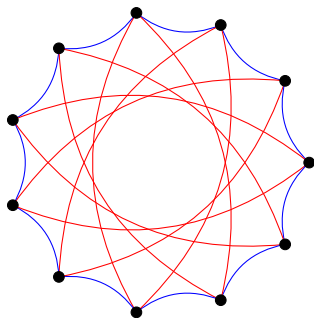


<sup>4</sup>Rostovtsev and Stolbunov 2006.

# R&S key exchange



## R&S key exchange



Key generation: compose small degree isogenies  
polynomial in the length of the random walk.

Attack: find an isogeny between two curves  
polynomial in the degree, exponential in the length.

Quantum<sup>5</sup>: HShP + isogeny evaluation  
subexponential in the length of the walk.

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<sup>5</sup>Childs, Jao, and Soukharev 2010.

# Supersingular curves

$\mathbb{Q} \otimes \text{End}(E)$  is a quaternion algebra (non-commutative)

## Facts

- Every supersingular curve is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ .
- $E(\mathbb{F}_{p^2}) \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(p+1)\mathbb{Z})^2$  (up to twist, and overly simplifying!).
- There are  $g(X_0(p)) + 1 \sim \frac{p+1}{12}$  supersingular curves up to isomorphism.
- For every maximal order type of the quaternion algebra  $\mathbb{Q}_{p,\infty}$  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  $\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p$  (there are two over any finite field).
- The graph of  $\ell$ -isogenies is  $\ell + 1$ -regular.

## R&S key exchange with supersingular curves

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

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

However: left ideals of  $\text{End}(E)$  still act on the isogeny graph:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & E' \\ \downarrow \mathfrak{b} & & \downarrow \mathfrak{b}_\alpha \\ E'' & \xrightarrow{\alpha_\mathfrak{b}} & E''' \end{array}$$

- The action factors through the **right-isomorphism** equivalence of ideals.
- Ideal classes form a **groupoid** (in other words, an undirected multigraph...).

## From ideals back to isogenies

In practice, computations with ideals are hard. We fix, instead:

- Small primes  $\ell_A, \ell_B$ ;
- A large prime  $p$  such that  $p + 1 = \ell_A^{e_A} \ell_B^{e_B}$ ;
- A supersingular curve  $E$  over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ , such that

$$E \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(p+1)\mathbb{Z})^2 = (\mathbb{Z}/\ell_A^{e_A}\mathbb{Z})^2 \oplus (\mathbb{Z}/\ell_B^{e_B}\mathbb{Z})^2,$$

- We use isogenies of degrees  $\ell_A^{e_A}$  and  $\ell_B^{e_B}$  with cyclic rational kernels;
- The diagram below can be constructed in time  $\text{poly}(e_A + e_B)$ .

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\phi} & E/\langle P \rangle \\ \psi \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi' \\ E/\langle Q \rangle & \xrightarrow{\phi'} & E/\langle P, Q \rangle \end{array}$$

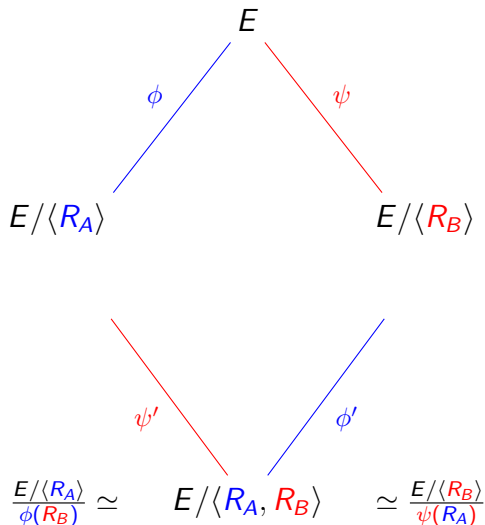
# Our proposal: SIDH<sup>6</sup>

## Public data:

- Prime  $p$  such that  $p + 1 = \ell_A^a \ell_B^b$ ;
- Supersingular curve  $E \simeq (\mathbb{Z}/(p + 1)\mathbb{Z})^2$ ;
- $E[\ell_A^a] = \langle P_A, Q_A \rangle$ ;
- $E[\ell_B^b] = \langle P_B, Q_B \rangle$ .

## Secret data:

- $R_A = m_A P_A + n_A Q_A$ ,
- $R_B = m_B P_B + n_B Q_B$ ,



<sup>6</sup>Jao and De Feo 2011.

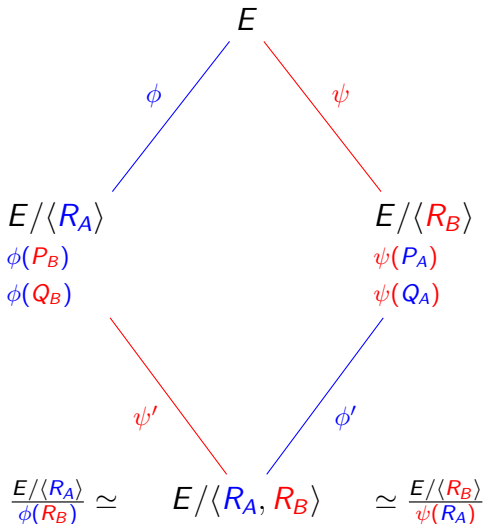
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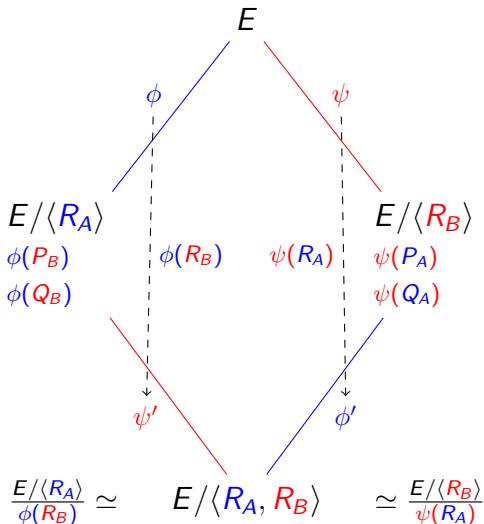
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<sup>6</sup>Jao and De Feo 2011.

# Other protocols based on SIDH

## Non-interactive protocols

- El-Gamal encryption.

## Interactive protocols

- Zero-knowledge proofs of identity<sup>a</sup>,
- Undeniable signatures<sup>b</sup>,
- Strong designated verifier signatures<sup>c</sup>,
- Authenticated encryption<sup>d</sup>.

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<sup>a</sup>De Feo, Jao, and Plût 2014.

<sup>b</sup>Jao and Soukharev 2014.

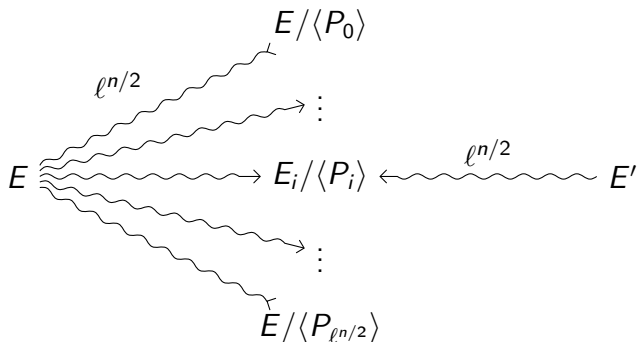
<sup>c</sup>Sun, Tian, and Wang 2012.

<sup>d</sup>Soukharev, Jao, and Seshadri 2016.

Missing: Classical signatures, ...

## Generic attacks

Problem: Given  $E, E'$ , isogenous of degree  $\ell^n$ , find  $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$ .



- With high probability  $\phi$  is the unique collision (or *claw*).
- A [quantum claw finding](#)<sup>7</sup> algorithm solves the problem in  $O(\ell^{n/3})$ .

<sup>7</sup>Tani 2009.

## Other attacks

### Ephemeral key recovery (total break)

Given  $E_0$  and a public curve  $E_0/\langle R \rangle$ , find the kernel of the secret isogeny:

**Subexponential**  $L_p(1/2, \sqrt{3}/2)$  when both curves are defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .<sup>a</sup>

**Polynomial** isomorphic problem on quaternion algebras.<sup>b</sup>

**Equivalent to** computing the endomorphism rings of both  $E_0$  and  $E_0/\langle R_A \rangle$ .<sup>c</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Biasse, Jao, and Sankar 2014.

<sup>b</sup>Kohel, K. Lauter, Petit, and Tignol 2014.

<sup>c</sup>Steven D Galbraith, Petit, Shani, and Ti 2016.

# Other attacks

## Other security models

**Active attack** against long term keys, learns the full key with (close to) optimal number of oracle queries. Countermeasures are relatively expensive.<sup>a</sup>

**Side channel** Constant-time implementation available.<sup>b</sup>  
Attack on partially leaked keys.<sup>a</sup>

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<sup>a</sup>Steven D Galbraith, Petit, Shani, and Ti 2016.

<sup>b</sup>Costello, Longa, and Naehrig 2016.

## Recommended parameters

- For efficiency chose  $p$  such that  $p + 1 = 2^a 3^b$ .
- For classical  $n$ -bit security, choose  $2^a \sim 3^b \sim 2^{2n}$ , hence  $p \sim 2^{4n}$ .
- For quantum  $n$ -bit security, choose  $2^a \sim 3^b \sim 2^{3n}$ , hence  $p \sim 2^{6n}$ .

### Practical optimizations:

- Optimize arithmetic for  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .<sup>a</sup>
- $-1$  is a quadratic non-residue:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2} \simeq \mathbb{F}_p[X]/(X^2 + 1)$ .
- $E$  (or its twist) has a 4-torsion point: use **Montgomery** form.
- Avoid inversions by using *projective curve equations*.<sup>a</sup>
- Use  $j = 0$  as starting curve.<sup>a</sup>

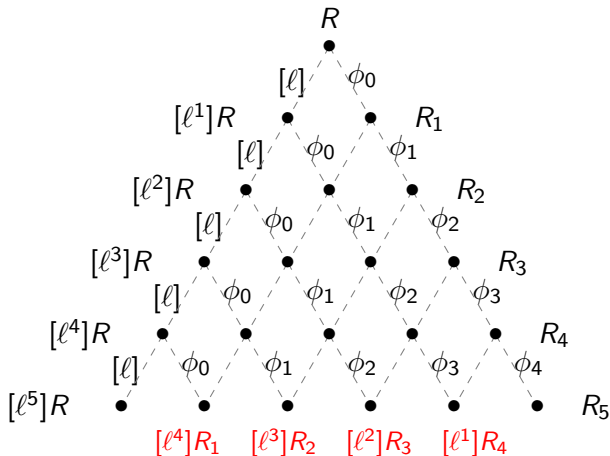
Fastest implementation<sup>a</sup>: **100Mcycles** (Intel Haswell) **@128bits** quantum security level, **4512bits** public key size.

<sup>a</sup>Costello, Longa, and Naehrig 2016.

<sup>b</sup>Karmakar, Roy, Vercauteren, and Verbauwhede 2016.

# Evaluating $\phi : E \rightarrow E/\langle R \rangle$ efficiently

$\text{ord}(R) = \ell^a$  and  $\phi = \phi_0 \circ \phi_1 \circ \cdots \circ \phi_{a-1}$ , each of degree  $\ell$



For each  $i$ , one needs to compute  $[l^{e-i}]R_i$  in order to compute  $\phi_i$ .

# What's the best strategy?



Figure: The seven well formed strategies for  $e = 4$ .

- Right edges are  $\ell$ -isogeny evaluation;
- Left edges are multiplications by  $\ell$  (about twice as expensive);

The best strategy can be precomputed offline and hardcoded in an embedded system.

A package to explore strategies:

<https://github.com/sidh-crypto/sidh-optimizer>.



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