# An introduction to isogeny-based crypto 

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## Diffie-Hellman key exchange

- Let $S$ be a set (e.g. $\mathbb{F}_{p}$ or $E\left(\mathbb{F}_{p}\right)$ ).
- Let $G$ be a group (e.g. $\mathbb{Z}$ ) that acts on $S$ as

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
G \times S & \longrightarrow & S \\
(a, x) & \mapsto & a * x
\end{array}
$$

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(a, x) & \mapsto & x^{a}
\end{array}
$$

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\begin{array}{ccc}
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$$
a *(b * x)
$$

- $k=a *(b * x)=b *(a * x)$



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\end{array}
$$


a


- $k=a *(b * x)=b *(a * x)$
- Finding $a$ or $b$ given $x, a * x$, and $b * x$ should be hard!


## Quantum-hard Diffie-Hellman

- Classical Diffie-Hellman: $S=\mathbb{F}_{p}$ and $G=\mathbb{Z}$ with $(a, x) \mapsto x^{a}$ is not hard enough with a quantum computer.
- Elliptic Curve Diffie-Hellman: $S=E\left(\mathbb{F}_{p}\right)$ and $G=\mathbb{Z}$ with $(n, P) \mapsto n P$ is not hard enough with a quantum computer.
- Supersingular Isogeny Diffie-Hellman has a chance of being quantum secure! What is it?


## Definition

Let $q$ be a prime power such that $2,3 \chi$ q. We define an elliptic curve over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ to be a curve of the form

$$
y^{2}=x^{3}+a x+b
$$

where $a$ and $b$ are elements of $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ and $4 a^{3}+27 b^{2} \neq 0$.

## Elliptic Curves

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where $a$ and $b$ are elements of $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ and $4 a^{3}+27 b^{2} \neq 0$.
Definition
The $j$-invariant of an elliptic curve $E: y^{2}=x^{3}+a x+b$ is given by

$$
j(E)=1728 \frac{4 a^{3}}{4 a^{3}+27 b^{2}}
$$

This defines $E$ up to $\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$-isomorphism.

## Elliptic Curves

The $j$-invariant of an elliptic curve $E: y^{2}=x^{3}+a x+b$ is given by

$$
j(E)=1728 \frac{4 a^{3}}{4 a^{3}+27 b^{2}}
$$

Example
Define

$$
E / \mathbb{F}_{11}: y^{2}=x^{3}+x+1
$$

Then $j(E)=1728 \frac{4}{31} \equiv 9$. Try the isomorphism $(x, y) \mapsto(4 x, 8 y)$ :

$$
(8 y)^{2}=(4 x)^{3}+4 x+1
$$

Divide by 64 :

$$
\begin{gathered}
E^{\prime} / \mathbb{F}_{11}: y^{2}=x^{3}+9 x+5 \\
j\left(E^{\prime}\right)=1728 \frac{4 \cdot 9^{3}}{4 \cdot 9^{3}+27 \cdot 5^{2}} \equiv 9
\end{gathered}
$$

## Back to Diffie-Hellman

- Let $S$ be a set (e.g. $\mathbb{F}_{p}$ or $E\left(\mathbb{F}_{p}\right)$ ).
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$$
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$$



## Back to Diffie-Hellman

- Let $S=\left\{j\left(E_{1}\right), \ldots, j\left(E_{n}\right)\right\}$ be the set of $j$-invariants of elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$.
- We need a group $G$ that acts on $S$ as

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
G \times S & \longrightarrow & S \\
(a, j(E)) & \mapsto & a * j(E)
\end{array}
$$

## Definition

An isogeny of elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ is a non-zero morphism $E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ that preserves the identity. It is given by rational maps.

## Understanding isogenies I: the group law on elliptic curves

- For any field $k$ (e.g. $\mathbb{F}_{p}$ or $\mathbb{Q}$ ), the $k$-rational points of $E$ form a group $E(k)$.



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## Understanding isogenies II: examples

An isogeny of elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ is a non-zero morphism $E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ that preserves the identity. It is given by rational maps. (A morphism is a map of curves that preserves the group law).


## Understanding isogenies II: examples

- The top isogeny is
$(x, y) \mapsto\left(\left(x^{3}+4\right) / x^{2},\left(x^{3} y-8 y\right) / x^{3}\right)$.
- Define the curves over $\mathbb{F}_{17}$. Then it is ' $3: 1$ ' (and surjective), so for every $\mathbb{F}_{17}$-point on the green curve there are $3 \mathbb{F}_{17}$-points on the blue curve which map to it.
- Exercise: which 3 points on the blue curve map to $(3,0)$ ?
- Sanity check: $j(E)=0, j(E)=1$, $j(E)=0$. Exercise: check that $E$ and $E$ are isomorphic over $\mathbb{F}_{17^{2}}$ but not over $\mathbb{F}_{17}$.


## Understanding isogenies III: useful facts

- If a (separable) isogeny $\varphi$ has kernel of size $\ell$ (so $\varphi$ is $\ell: 1$ ) the degree of $\varphi$ is $\ell$.
- Write

$$
\begin{array}{lllc}
{[\ell]:} & E & \longrightarrow & E \\
& P & \mapsto & \ell P
\end{array}
$$

for the multiplication-by- $\ell$ map on $E$.

- For every isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$, of degree $n$, there exists a dual isogeny $\varphi^{\vee}: E^{\prime} \rightarrow E$ of degree $\ell$ such that $\varphi^{\vee} \circ \varphi=[\ell]$. That is, for every $P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{p}}\right)$,

$$
\varphi^{\vee}(\varphi(P))=\ell P
$$

- For $P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}\right)$, if $\varphi(P)=\infty$, then $\ell P=\infty$, so

$$
\operatorname{ker}(\varphi) \subseteq \operatorname{ker}([\ell])=: E[\ell]
$$

## Understanding isogenies IV: counting the possibilities

Remember: if $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ is a separable isogeny and $\# \operatorname{ker}(\varphi)=\ell$, then $\operatorname{ker}(\varphi) \subseteq E[\ell]$.
Theorem
For every subgroup $H \subset E[\ell]$, there exists an elliptic curve $E^{\prime}$ and a separable isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ with $\operatorname{ker}(\varphi)=H$.

## Theorem

For $E / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ an elliptic curve, if $\ell$ is a prime and $\ell \neq p$, then

$$
E[\ell] \cong \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}
$$

Exercise: Show that there are $\ell+1$ subgroups of $\mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}$ of size $\ell$.
Warning! Not every degree $\ell$ isogeny will be defined over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$. (It could be over $\mathbb{F}_{q^{2}}, \mathbb{F}_{q^{3}}, \ldots$ )

## Back to Diffie-Hellman

- Remember: every size $\ell$ subgroup of $E[\ell] \cong \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}$ gives a unique (up to isomorphism) elliptic curve $E^{\prime} / \overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ and a unique separable degree- $\ell$ isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$.
- Let $P \in E[\ell]$ be order $\ell$ (so $P \neq \infty$ ). Then $\langle P\rangle$ is a size $\ell$ subgroup of $E[\ell]$. Define $E_{P}$ and $\varphi_{P}$ to be the unique elliptic curve and degree $\ell$-isogeny given by $\langle P\rangle$.
- Let $S=\left\{j\left(E_{1}\right), \ldots, j\left(E_{n}\right)\right\}$ be the set of $j$-invariants of elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$.
- We need a group $G$ that acts on $S$ as

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\begin{array}{ccc}
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(a, j(E)) & \mapsto & a * j(E)
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- Let $S=\left\{j\left(E_{1}\right), \ldots, j\left(E_{n}\right)\right\}$ be the set of $j$-invariants of elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$.
- $\mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}$ acts on $S$ as

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
(\mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}) \times S & \longrightarrow & S \\
(P, j(E)) & \mapsto & j\left(E_{P}\right)
\end{array}
$$

## What about Alice and Bob?

Remember: The subgroup of $E[\ell]$ generated by an order $\ell$ point $P \in E[\ell]$ defines a unique (up to isomorphism) elliptic curve $E / \overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ and degree $\ell$ isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
m \varphi\left(P_{A}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{A}\right) & =\varphi(R) \\
& =: R
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
m \varphi\left(P_{B}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right) & =\varphi(R) \\
& =: R
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\varphi: E \rightarrow E
$$

Exercise: prove that $j(E)=j(E)$. This is the shared private key!

## How hard is this?

Remember: The subgroup of $E[\ell]$ generated by an order $\ell$ point $P \in E[\ell]$ defines a unique (up to isomorphism) elliptic curve $E / \overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ and degree $\ell$ isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E$.


- It should be hard to find $\varphi$ given $E, \varphi\left(P_{B}\right), \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right)$.
- Remember that there are at most $\ell+1$ possible isogenies of degree $\ell$.
- How do we increase the possibilities?


## Composing isogenies

(This slide has been edited following a comment in the lecture). Remember: The subgroup of $E[\ell]$ generated by an order $\ell$ point $P \in E[\ell]$ defines a unique (up to isomorphism) elliptic curve $E$ and degree $\ell$ isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E_{P}$.


- There are up to $(\ell+1)^{r}$ possibilities for $\varphi_{A}$ !


## Understanding isogenies V : isogeny graphs

Remember:

- From every elliptic curve $E / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ there are $\ell+1$ possible degree $\ell$ isogenies, but some of them might only be defined over $\mathbb{F}_{q^{2}}$, $\mathbb{F}_{q^{3}, \ldots}$
- For every degree $\ell$-isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ there exists a unique degree $\ell$-isogeny (called the dual) $\varphi^{\vee}: E^{\prime} \rightarrow E$ such that $\varphi^{\vee} \circ \varphi=[\ell]$.


## Definition

An isogeny graph is a graph where a vertex represents the $j$-invariant of an elliptic curve over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ and an undirected edge represents a degree $\ell$ isogeny defined over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ and its dual.

## Understanding isogenies V : isogeny graphs

$p=q=1000003, \ell=2$, graph contains $j(E)=-3$ :
$p=431, q=431^{2}, \ell=2$, graph contains $j(E)=0$ :


## Supersingular curves

- Remember: for a prime $\ell \neq p$, the $\ell$-torsion of $E / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ is

$$
\left\{P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}\right): \ell P=\infty\right\} \cong \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z} / \ell \mathbb{Z}
$$

- The $q$-torsion of $E$ is either
(a) $E[q] \cong \mathbb{Z} / q \mathbb{Z}$ - ' $E$ is ordinary', or
(b) $E[q]=\{\infty\}-$ ' $E$ is supersingular'
- Theorem: every supersingular elliptic curve $E / \overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ is defined over $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2}}$.
- If $p^{2} \mid q$ then all of the $\ell+1$ degree $\ell$ isogenies from a supersingular elliptic curve $E / \mathbb{F}_{q}$ are defined over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ !
- Theorem: the degree $\ell$ isogeny graph with vertices given by the supersingular $j$-invariants over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with $p^{2} \mid q$ is connected, and away from $j=0$ and 1728 , regular of degree $\ell+1$. If $p \equiv 1 \bmod 12$, the graph is Ramanujan.


## Ramanujan graphs

$$
p=109, q=109^{2}, \ell=2
$$



- If $\Gamma$ is a Ramanujan graph, $\Sigma$ is a subset of $\Gamma$, and $V$ is a vertex in $\Gamma$, then a 'long enough' random walk from $V$ will land in $\Sigma$ with probability at least $|\Sigma| / 2|\Gamma|$.


## Random walking on isogeny graphs

$$
p=431, q=431^{2}, \ell=2, \text { graph contains } j(E)=0:
$$



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## Alice and Bob do SIDH

Remember: The subgroup of $E\left[\ell^{r}\right]$ generated by an order $\ell^{r}$ point $P \in E\left[\ell^{r}\right]$ defines a unique (up to isomorphism) elliptic curve $E / \overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ and degree $\ell^{r}$ isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& E / \mathbb{F}_{q} \text { supersingular, } \\
& P_{A}, Q_{A} \in E\left[\ell^{r}\right], \\
& P_{B}, Q_{B} \in E\left[\ell^{r}\right] \\
& m, n \in \mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z} \\
& R=m P_{A}+n Q_{A} \\
& E, \varphi\left(P_{B}\right), \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right) \\
& \longrightarrow \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& E, \varphi\left(P_{A}\right), \varphi\left(Q_{A}\right) \\
& m, n \in \mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z} \\
& R=m P_{B}+n Q_{B} \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& m \varphi\left(P_{A}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{A}\right)=\varphi(R) \\
& =: R \\
& m \varphi\left(P_{B}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right)=\varphi(R) \\
& j(E)=j(E) \\
& =: R \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E
\end{aligned}
$$

## Recap of terms

- An elliptic curve over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ with $2,3 \nless q$ is given by an equation

$$
y^{2}=x^{3}+a x+b
$$

with $a, b \in \mathbb{F}_{q}$ and $4 a^{3}+27 b^{2} \neq 0$.

- There is a group law on elliptic curves where the identity element is called $\infty$.
- $\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}$ is the algebraic closure of $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ - this contains all the solutions to every polynomial with coefficients in $\mathbb{F}_{q}$.
- For $n \in \mathbb{Z}$, the $n$-torsion $E[n]$ of $E$ is given by

$$
E[n]=\left\{P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}\right): n P=\infty\right\}
$$

- An elliptic curve over $\mathbb{F}_{q}$ is supersingular if

$$
E[q] \cong\{\infty\}
$$

## Recap of terms

- An isogeny of elliptic curves is a map that preserves the geometric structure, the group law $(+)$ and the identity $(\infty)$.
- The degree of a separable isogeny $\varphi$ is the size of the kernel, that is,

$$
\operatorname{deg}(\varphi)=\#\left\{P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{p}}\right): \varphi(P)=\infty\right\}
$$

## Recap of ideas

- We can think of the setup of classical Diffie-Hellman as a group $G\left(\right.$ e.g. $\mathbb{Z}$ or $\left.\mathbb{F}_{p}^{*}\right)$ acting on a set $S\left(\right.$ e.g. $\left.\mathbb{F}_{p}\right)$ as

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
G \times S & \longrightarrow & S \\
(a, x) & \mapsto & a * x:=x^{a} .
\end{array}
$$

- We extend the classical Diffie-Hellman idea by using the set

$$
S=\left\{j(E): E / \mathbb{F}_{p^{2}}, E \text { supersingular elliptic curve }\right\}
$$

and the group $G$ acts on $S$ by isogenies of degree $\ell^{r}$.

- The supersingular isogeny Diffie-Hellman is 'hard enough' because there are many choices for each isogeny, and the choice is random.
- We analyse the randomness of the choice using isogeny graphs


## Recap of supersingular isogeny graphs

## Recall:

- A vertex of a supersingular isogeny graph is the $j$-invariant (isomorphism invariant) of a supersingular elliptic curve.
- An edge of a degree $\ell$ isogeny graph is a pair of degree $\ell$ isogenies $\varphi: E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ and $\varphi^{\vee}: E^{\prime} \rightarrow E$ such that for $P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}\right), \varphi^{\vee}(\varphi(P))=\ell P$.
- Every vertex in a supersingular isogeny graph has $\ell+1$ edges from it.
- A random walk on the graph will give a random vertex after enough steps.
- A path of lenth $r$ represents an isogeny given by the composition of $r$ degree $\ell$ isogenies.


## Bob takes a random walk



- Bob starts with the public elliptic curve $E$
- Bob decides he will walk 4 steps
- Bob publishes $P_{B}, Q_{B} \in E\left[2^{4}\right]$ (because $\ell=2$ )
- Bob chooses random

$$
\begin{aligned}
& m_{1}, n_{1} \in \mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z} \text { (because } \\
& \ell=2 \text { ) }
\end{aligned}
$$

- Bob computes a secret point $R_{1}=m_{1} P_{B}+n_{1} Q_{B}$ on $E$


## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute the elliptic curve $E_{R_{1}}$ and degree 2 isogeny

$$
E \rightarrow E_{R_{1}}
$$

corresponding to $R_{1}$

## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute the elliptic curve $E_{R_{1}}$ and degree 2 isogeny

$$
E \rightarrow E_{R_{1}}
$$

corresponding to $R_{1}$

- Compute points

$$
\begin{aligned}
& P_{1}=\varphi_{R_{1}}\left(P_{B}\right) \text { and } \\
& Q_{1}=\varphi_{R_{1}}\left(Q_{B}\right) \text { on } E_{R_{1}} .
\end{aligned}
$$

## Bob takes a random walk



- Bob is now standing at supersingular elliptic curve $E_{R_{1}}$
- Choose random $m_{2}, n_{2} \in \mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z}$ (because $\ell=2$ )
- Compute secret point $R_{2}=m_{2} P_{1}+n_{2} Q_{1}$ on $E_{R_{1}}$


## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute the elliptic curve $E_{R_{2}}$ and degree 2 isogeny

$$
E_{R_{1}} \rightarrow E_{R_{2}}
$$

corresponding to $R_{2}$

- Compute points

$$
P_{2}=\varphi_{R_{2}}\left(P_{1}\right) \text { and }
$$

$$
Q_{2}=\varphi_{R_{2}}\left(Q_{1}\right) \text { on } E_{R_{2}}
$$

## Bob takes a random walk



- Bob is now standing at supersingular elliptic curve $E_{R_{2}}$
- Choose random $m_{3}, n_{3} \in \mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z}$ (because $\ell=2$ )
- Compute secret point $R_{3}=m_{3} P_{2}+n_{3} Q_{2}$ on $E_{R_{2}}$


## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute the elliptic curve $E_{R_{3}}$ and degree 2 isogeny

$$
E_{R_{2}} \rightarrow E_{R_{3}}
$$

corresponding to $R_{3}$

- Compute points

$$
P_{3}=\varphi_{R_{3}}\left(P_{2}\right) \text { and }
$$

$$
Q_{3}=\varphi_{R_{3}}\left(Q_{2}\right) \text { on } E_{R_{3}} .
$$

## Bob takes a random walk



- Bob is now standing at supersingular elliptic curve $E_{R_{3}}$
- Choose random $m_{4}, n_{4} \in \mathbb{Z} / 2 \mathbb{Z}$ (because $\ell=2$ )
- Compute secret point $R_{4}=m_{4} P_{3}+n_{4} Q_{3}$ on $E_{R_{3}}$


## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute the elliptic curve $E_{R_{4}}$ and degree 2 isogeny

$$
E_{R_{3}} \rightarrow E_{R_{4}}
$$

corresponding to $R_{4}$

- You have reached you destination! (Remember that Bob chose to walk 4 steps).


## Bob takes a random walk



- Compute

$$
\varphi_{B}:=\varphi_{R_{4}} \circ \varphi_{R_{3}} \circ \varphi_{R_{2}} \circ \varphi_{R_{1}}
$$

so that

$$
\varphi_{B}: E \longrightarrow E_{R_{4}} .
$$

- Look up Alice's public points $P_{A}$ and $Q_{A}$ and send her

$$
\varphi_{B}\left(P_{A}\right) \text { and } \varphi_{B}\left(Q_{A}\right)
$$

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& E, \varphi\left(P_{B}\right), \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right) \\
& \longrightarrow \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& E, \varphi\left(P_{A}\right), \varphi\left(Q_{A}\right) \\
& m, n \in \mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z} \\
& R=m P_{B}+n Q_{B} \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& m \varphi\left(P_{A}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{A}\right)=\varphi(R) \\
& =: R \\
& m \varphi\left(P_{B}\right)+n \varphi\left(Q_{B}\right)=\varphi(R) \\
& j(E)=j(E) \\
& =: R \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E \\
& \varphi: E \rightarrow E
\end{aligned}
$$

## Bonus: how random is SIDH?



Remember:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{ker}(\varphi) & =\left\{P \in E\left(\overline{\mathbb{F}_{q}}\right): \varphi(P)=\infty\right\} \\
& =\langle R\rangle \\
& \cong \mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
R=m P_{B}+n Q_{B}
$$

$\varphi: E \rightarrow E$.

- A truly random isogeny from a random path in a supersingular isogeny graph

$$
\varphi_{B}=\varphi_{R_{1}} \circ \varphi_{R_{2}} \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_{R_{r}}
$$

will have $\# \operatorname{ker}\left(\varphi_{B}\right)=\ell^{r}$ but maybe not $\cong \mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z}$ !

- Exercise: which other situations are there?


## Computing random paths in isogeny graphs

Remember: Each size $\ell$ subgroup of $E[\ell]$ defines a unique (up to isomorphism) degree $\ell$ isogeny from $E$.

- Vélu's algorithm: given a size $\ell$ subgroup $H$ of $E[\ell]$, computes the isogeny and the elliptic curve corresponding to $H$.
- Can compute a random path of length $r$ by choosing a random size $\ell$ subgroup at each step and using Vélu $r$ times to find $\varphi_{R_{1}}, \varphi_{R_{2}}, \ldots, \varphi_{R_{r}}$. (Like 'Bob goes for a walk').
- More efficient (but maybe less secure): choose a random subgroup of $E\left[\ell^{r}\right]$ that is isomorphic to $\mathbb{Z} / \ell^{r} \mathbb{Z}$ and use Vélu once to compute $\varphi_{B}$. (Like 'Alice and Bob do SIDH').


## Computing random paths in isogeny graphs

- Alternative to Vélu's algorithm: use modular polynomials


## Definition

The modular polynomial of level $\ell$ is a symmetric polynomial $\Phi_{\ell}(X, Y) \in \mathbb{Z}[X, Y]$ of degree $\ell+1$ in both $X$ and $Y$ such that for all (non- $\ell$ ) prime powers $q$ there exists a degree $\ell$ isogeny $E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ if and only if $\overline{\Phi_{\ell}(X, Y)} \in \mathbb{F}_{q}[X, Y]$ satisfies $\overline{\Phi_{\ell}}\left(j(E), j\left(E^{\prime}\right)\right)=0$.

- Neighbours of $j(E)$ in the $\ell$-isogeny graph are the roots of $\overline{\Phi_{\ell}(j(E), Y)}$.
- Elkie's has an algorithm to compute the isogeny $E \rightarrow E^{\prime}$ and its kernel (if they exist) given $j(E)$ and $j\left(E^{\prime}\right)$.
- Compute a random path of length $r$ in a degree $\ell$ supersingular isogeny graph starting at $E$ using $\Phi_{\ell}(X, Y)$.

Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


## Finding a random curve with modular polynomials



Edit: walking back is allowed in a random walk, but is not allowed in the SIDH protocol as this will give a final isogeny with non-cyclic kernel.

Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


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Finding a random curve with modular polynomials


## Attacks on SIDH: Galbraith et. al. 2016

1. Attack in the case that Alice and Bob do not change their private keys $m_{A}, n_{A} \in \mathbb{Z} / \ell_{A} \mathbb{Z}$ and $m_{B}, n_{B} \in \mathbb{Z} / \ell_{B} \mathbb{Z}$.

- This attack recovers the full private key in $O(r)$ steps.
- The only known validation methods that prevent this are very costly.

2. Number theoretic attack in time $\log (\sqrt{q})$ (currently unfeasible due to lack of theory).

- Relies on an efficient algorithm to compute 'endomorphism rings'.

3. Full break if the shared secret is partially leaked. (Edit: if you are watching the video, there was a comment from the audience saying that this is too generous, but following further discussion we concluded that it does in fact give a full break).

## Potential attack on SIDH: Petit June 2017

- Constructs variations of SIDH which can be broken by exploiting $\phi_{A}\left(P_{B}\right)$ and $\phi_{A}\left(P_{B}\right)$.
- Does not (yet) apply to the current version of SIDH.


## Where are we now with SIDH?

- Detailed cryptoanalysis needed to assess security
- Assuming the system is chosen to be secure against known attacks, best classical algorithm to find shared secret (based on finding an isogeny between 2 curves) is $O\left(p^{1 / 4}\right)$ for elliptic curves over $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2}}$
- Best quantum attack is $O\left(p^{1 / 6}\right)$
- Galbraith has an attack exploiting reused secret key pairs (m and $n$ )
- Christophe Petit studies how to exploit the additional points $\varphi\left(P_{A}\right), \varphi\left(P_{B}\right)$ - but his methods do not (yet) give an attack on SIDH
- ...


## SIDH vs. Lattice based crypto

| Name | Primitive | Time (ms) | PK size (bytes) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Frodo | LWE | 2.600 | 11,300 |
| NewHope | R-LWE | 0.310 | 1,792 |
| NTRU | NTRU | 2.429 | 1,024 |
| SIDH | Supersingular <br> Isogeny | 900 | 564 |

These are non-optimised timings!

## Bibliography

- De Feo, Jao, Plût, Towards quantum-resistant cryptosystems from supersingular elliptic curve isogenies (2011)
- Galbraith et. al., On the security of supersingular isogeny cryptosystems (2016)
- Petit, Faster algorithms for isogeny problems using torsion point images (last week)

