

Post-Quantum Adaptor Signature for Privacy-Preserving Off-Chain Payments

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Introduction and Motivation

Adaptor Signatures

- Previously known as **scriptless scripts**, and first introduced by Poelstra in 2017
- Recently formalized by Aumayr et al. in [AEE⁺20]

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- Recently formalized by Aumayr et al. in [AEE⁺20]
- Advantages: low on-chain cost, improved fungibility of transactions, advanced functionality beyond blockchain's scripting language
- Applications: payment channel networks, payment channel hubs, atomic swaps, etc.

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- Requires a hard relation compatible with the signature scheme
 - e.g., knowledge of discrete logarithm relation and Schnorr/ECDSA signature

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- Requires a hard relation compatible with the signature scheme
 - e.g., knowledge of discrete logarithm relation and Schnorr/ECDSA signature
- Can be viewed as a **two party “conditional signature”**
 - But, the final output is an ordinary signature from a single party (or a joint signature in the threshold setting)

Adaptor Signature - Formal Definition

- Let $\Sigma = (\text{KGen}, \text{Sig}, \text{Ver})$ be a digital signature scheme and $(Y, y) \in R$ be a hard relation (y secret witness, Y public statement)

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 - $y/\perp \leftarrow \text{Ext}(\sigma, \hat{\sigma}, Y)$ such that $(Y, y) \in R$

Adaptor Signature - Protocol View



$(Y, y) \in R$
 pk, m



(sk, pk)
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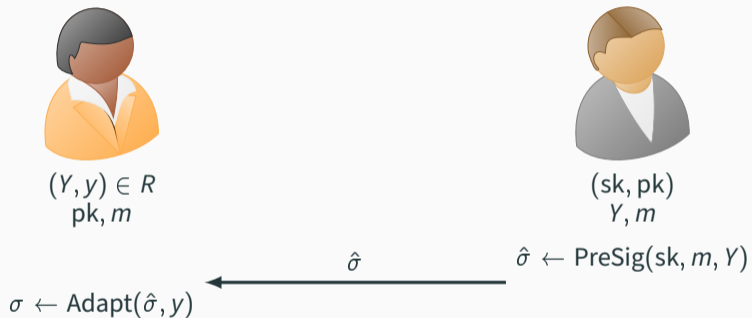
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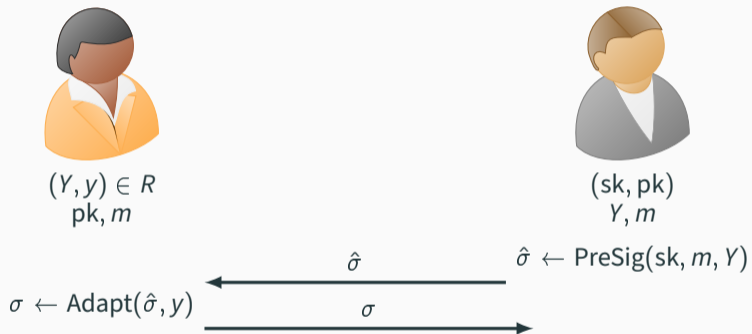
$\hat{\sigma}$



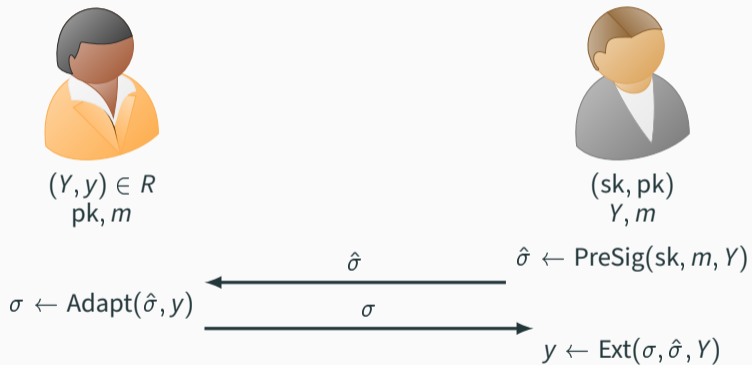
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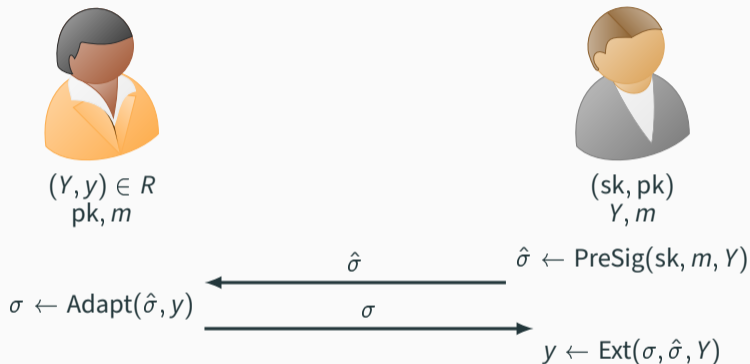
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Adaptor Signature - Protocol View



Observation:

- PreSig is like a **commitment**, such that Alice with a valid witness can **complete** the signature. And any valid $(\sigma, \hat{\sigma})$ pair **reveals** a witness.

- **Unforgeability:** infeasible to forge a signature even when pre-signature is given without knowing a witness to R

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- **Witness Extractability:** any given (pre-signature, signature) pair on the same statement Y reveals a witness to Y

Instantiation and Application

Schnorr Signature

Public parameters: group parameters (\mathbb{G}, g, p) , hash function $H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_p$

procedure KGen(1^λ)

$x \leftarrow_s \mathbb{Z}_p$

return (sk := x , pk := g^x)

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procedure Sig(sk, m)

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return $\sigma := (e, s)$

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procedure Ver(pk, m, σ)

Parse σ as (e, s)

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procedure Adapt($\hat{\sigma}, y$)

Parse $\hat{\sigma}$ as (e, \hat{s})

$s := \hat{s} + y$

return $\sigma := (e, s)$

procedure PreVer(pk, m, Y, $\hat{\sigma}$)

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procedure Ext($\sigma, \hat{\sigma}, Y$)

Parse σ as (e, s) , $\hat{\sigma}$ as (e, \hat{s})

$y' := s - \hat{s}$

if $(Y, y') \in R$ **return** y'

else return \perp

Payment Channel Networks (PCNs)

- Malavolta et al. [MMS⁺19] introduced Anonymous Multi-Hop Locks (AMHLs) as a building block for secure and privacy-preserving PCNs

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$$y_1 \leftarrow \$ \mathbb{Z}_p; Y_1 := g^{y_1}$$

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A



E_1



B



E_2



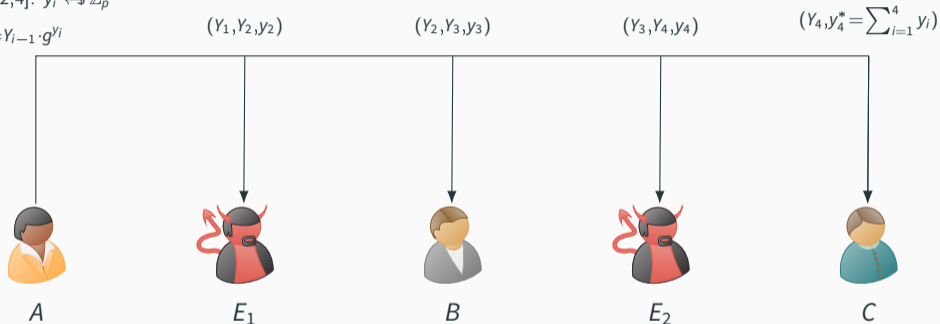
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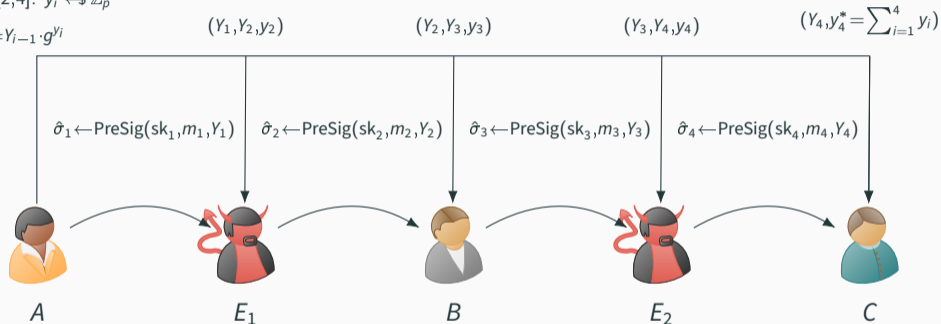


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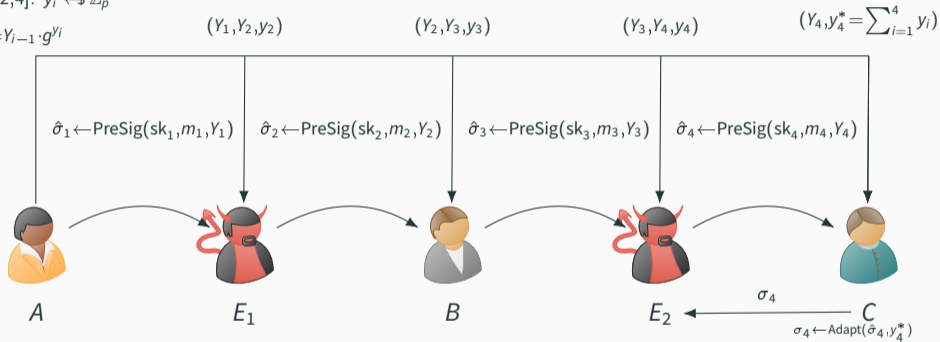


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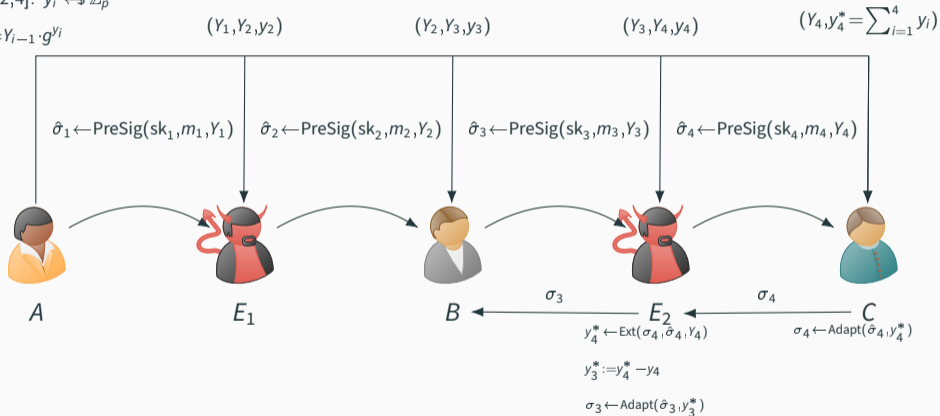


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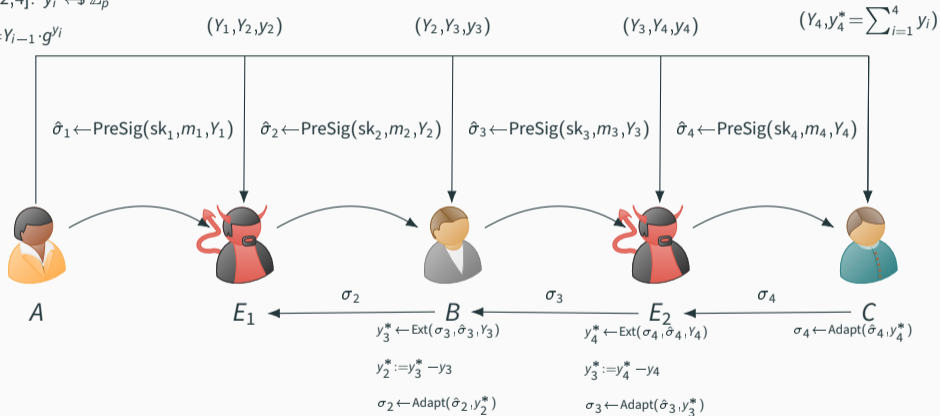


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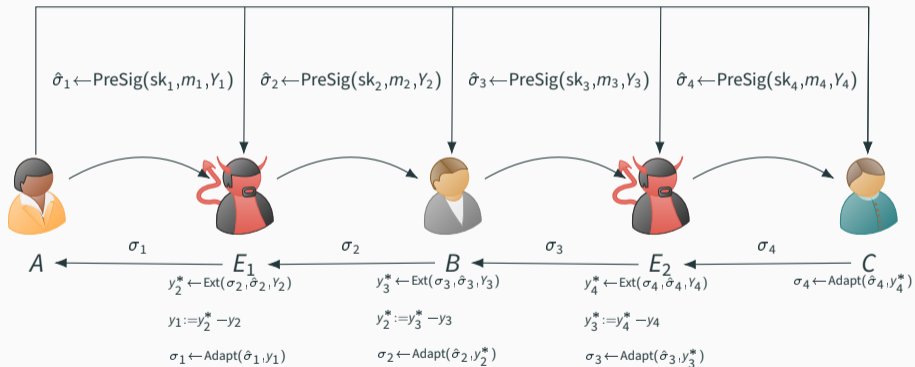
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$$(Y_1, Y_2, y_2)$$

$$(Y_2, Y_3, y_3)$$

$$(Y_3, Y_4, y_4)$$

$$(Y_4, Y_4^* = \sum_{i=1}^4 y_i)$$

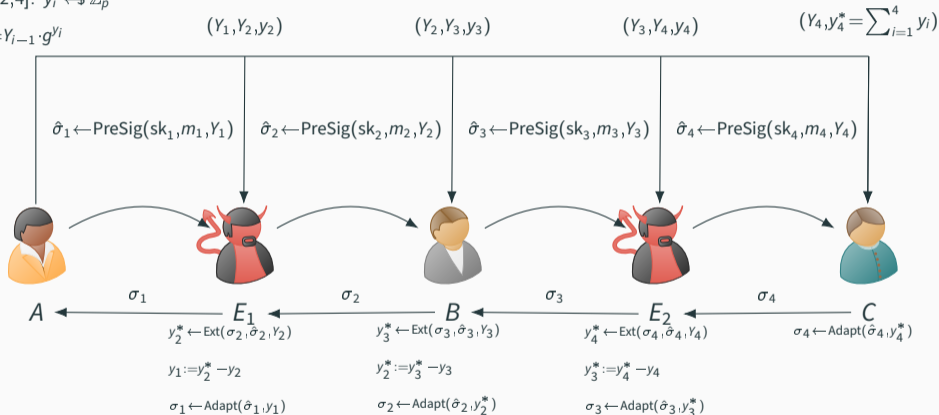


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- Additionally, the sender (A) needs to send a ZK proof for the well-formedness of objects to each intermediary.

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Can we construct adaptor signatures that remain secure against quantum adversaries?

Yes!

Lattice-based Adaptor Signature

Lattice Adaptor Signature (LAS)

- Introduced by Esgin et al. [EEE20]
- Builds upon the Dilithium signature scheme [DKL⁺18], which uses Fiat-Shamir with Aborts technique (rejection sampling)
- Based on well-known Module-SIS and Module-LWE problems
- Hard relation: knowledge of Module-SIS preimage
- Post-quantum PCNs and atomic swaps using LAS

Schnorr

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LAS

Public parameters: a random matrix

$\mathbf{A} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{R}^{n \times (n+\ell)}$, hash function

$H: \{0, 1\}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$

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- $\mathbb{S}_1^{n+\ell}$ is a distribution that samples vectors of size $n + \ell$ and of norm 1

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 $\mathbf{A} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathcal{R}^{n \times (n+\ell)}$, hash function

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procedure KGen(1^λ)

$\mathbf{x} \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{S}_1^{n+\ell}$

return (sk := \mathbf{x} , pk := \mathbf{Ax})

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procedure PreSig(sk, m, Y)

$\mathbf{k} \leftarrow_s \mathbb{S}_\gamma^{n+\ell}, \mathbf{R} := \mathbf{A}\mathbf{k}$

$e := H(\text{pk} \| \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{Y} \| m)$

$\hat{\mathbf{s}} := \mathbf{k} + e \cdot \text{sk}$

if $\|\hat{\mathbf{s}}\|_\infty > \gamma - \kappa - 1$ **then**

Restart

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- Range of H (challenge set \mathcal{C}) is composed of elements from the ring \mathcal{R} with certain norm restrictions
- If statement is used to perform rejection sampling, in order not to leak information about the secret key

LAS

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procedure PreVer(pk, m, Y, $\hat{\sigma}$)

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  if  $\|\hat{\mathbf{s}}\|_{\infty} > \gamma - \kappa - 1$  then
    return 0
   $\mathbf{w} := \mathbf{A}\hat{\mathbf{s}} - e \cdot \text{pk}$ 
   $e' = H(\text{pk} \| \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{Y} \| m)$ 
  return (e = e')

```

- Adapt and Ext algorithms are analogous to Schnorr-based construction.
- The hard relation R considered so far is knowledge of Module-SIS with a small preimage (i.e., $(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{y}) \in R$ iff $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{y}$ and $\|\mathbf{y}\|_\infty \leq 1$)

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Observation:

The witness \mathbf{y}' output by Ext can have norm at most $\leq 2(\gamma - \kappa)$.

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Solution:

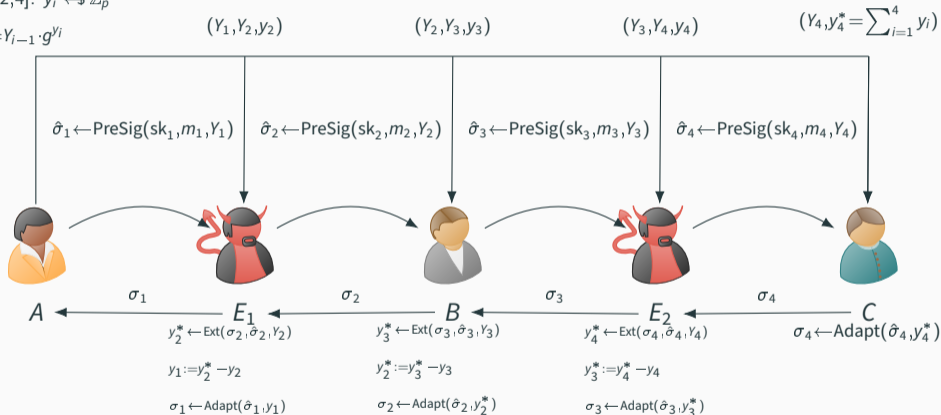
- Use a lengthy ZK proof (e.g., the proof from [ENS20] is 47KB).

LAS-based PCN

$$y_1 \leftarrow \$ \mathbb{Z}_p; Y_1 := g^{y_1}$$

for $i \in [2, 4]$: $y_i \leftarrow \$ \mathbb{Z}_p$

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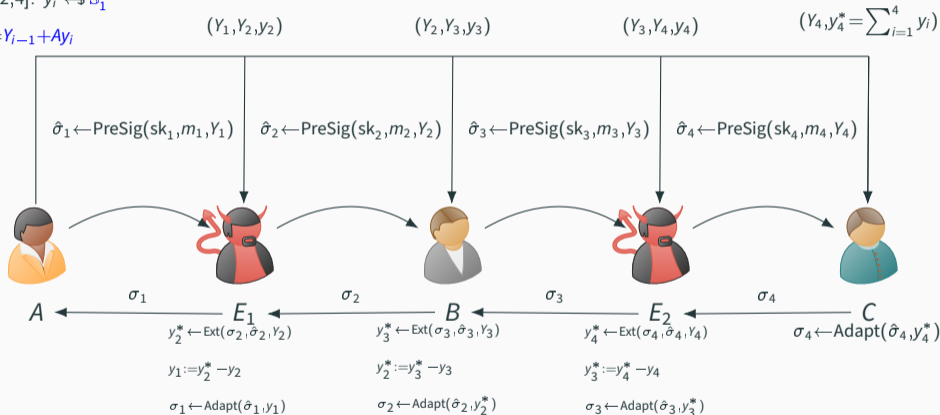


LAS-based PCN

$$y_1 \leftarrow \$ S_1^{n+\ell}; Y_1 := Ay_1$$

$$\text{for } i \in [2, 4]: y_i \leftarrow \$ S_i^{n+\ell}$$

$$Y_i := Y_{i-1} + Ay_i$$



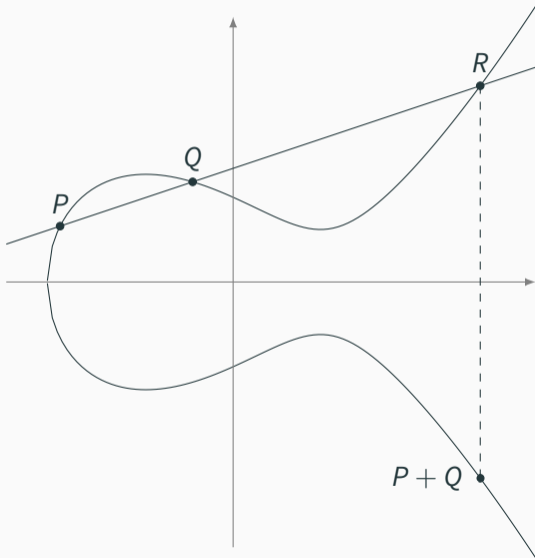
Observation:

The norm of the objects increases as we go along the path.

Background on Isogenies

Elliptic curves¹

Define a group law such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

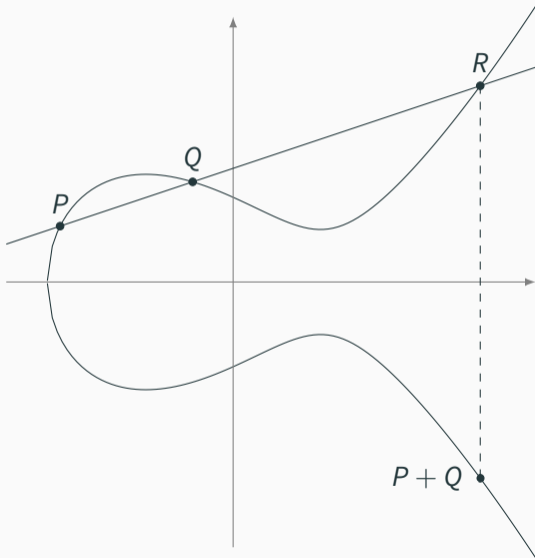


¹Slides of this section are taken from Luca De Feo

Elliptic curves¹

Define a group law such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

- The law is algebraic (it has *formulas*);

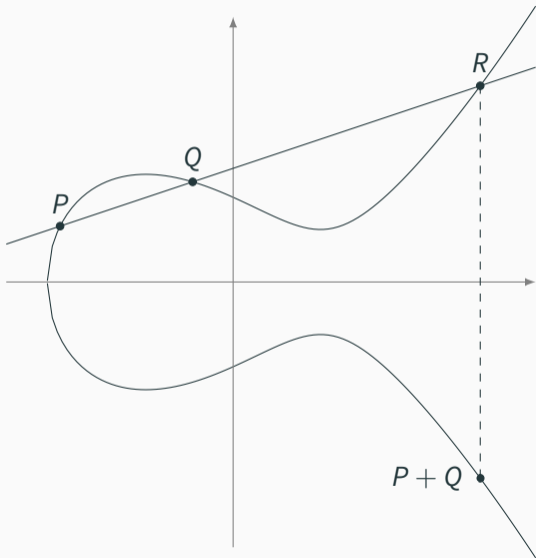


¹Slides of this section are taken from Luca De Feo

Elliptic curves¹

Define a group law such that any three colinear points add up to zero.

- The law is algebraic (it has *formulas*);
- The law is commutative;
- \mathcal{O} is the group identity;
- Opposite points have the same x -value.



¹Slides of this section are taken from Luca De Feo

Isomorphism and isogeny

Theorem

Let $\phi : E \rightarrow E'$ be a map between elliptic curves. These conditions are equivalent:

- ϕ is a surjective group morphism,
- ϕ is a group morphism with finite kernel,
- ϕ is a non-constant algebraic map of projective varieties sending the point at infinity of E onto the point at infinity of E' .

If they hold ϕ is called an isogeny.

Definition

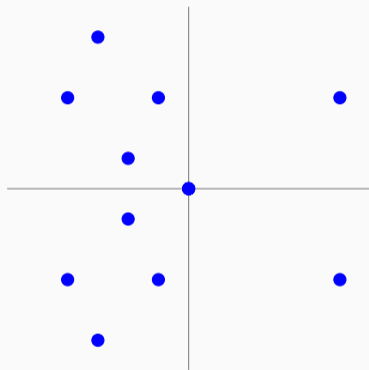
Let $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$, its **j -invariant** is

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

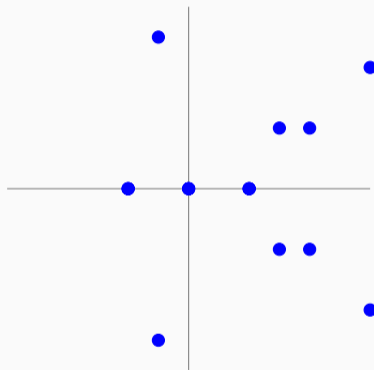
Two elliptic curves E, E' are **isomorphic** if and only if $j(E) = j(E')$.

Isogenies: an example over \mathbb{F}_{11}

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



$$E' : y^2 = x^3 - 4x$$

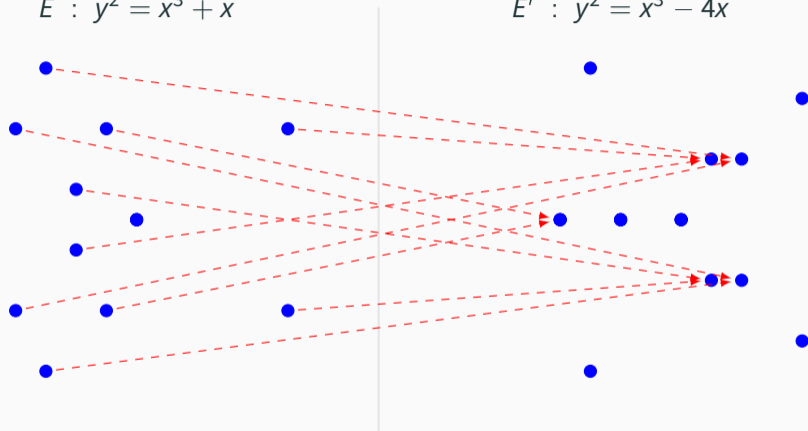


$$\phi(x, y) = \left(\frac{x^2 + 1}{x}, y \frac{x^2 - 1}{x^2} \right)$$

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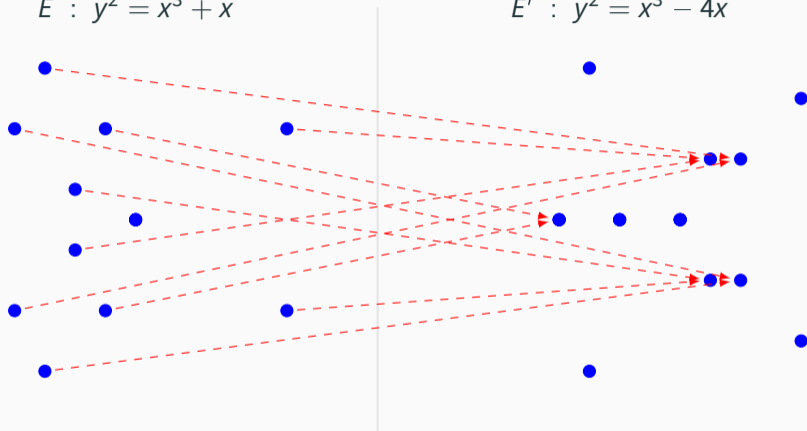


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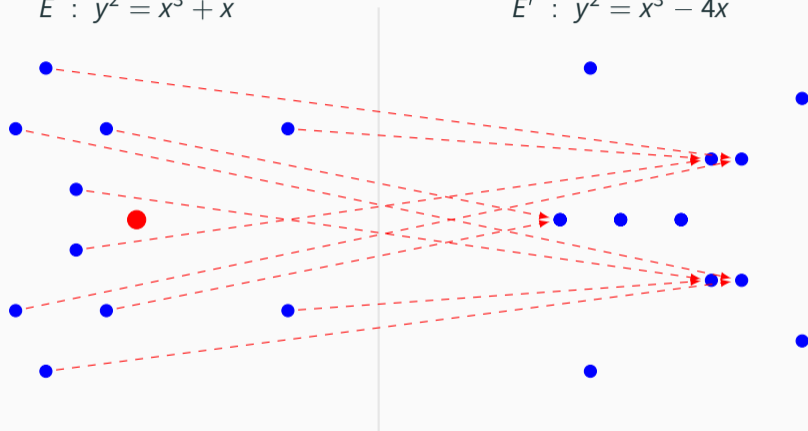
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- Kernel generator in red.
- This is a degree 2 map.

Isogenies: an example over \mathbb{F}_{11}

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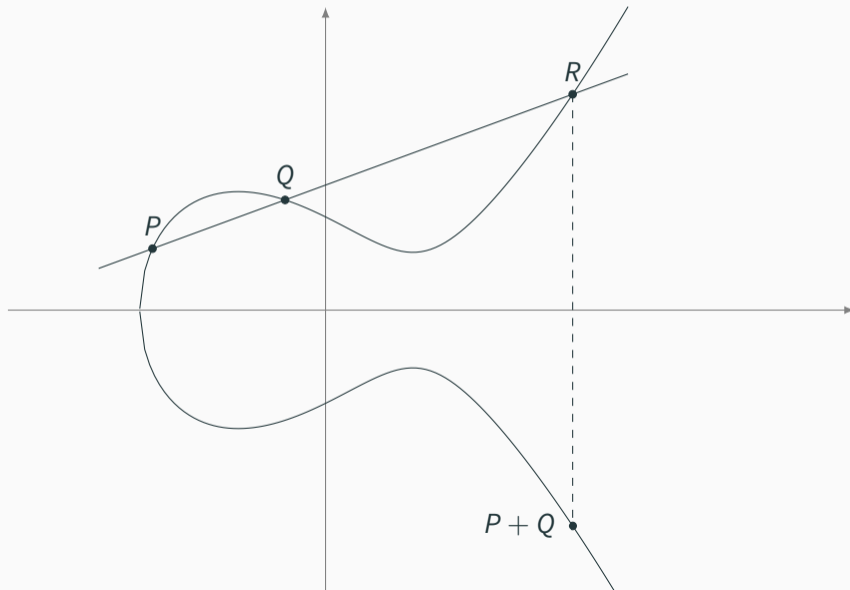
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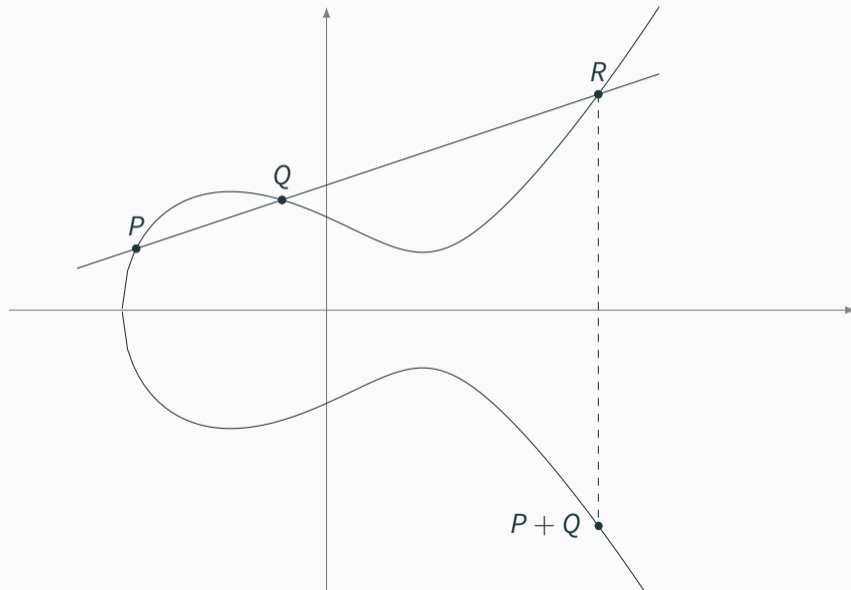
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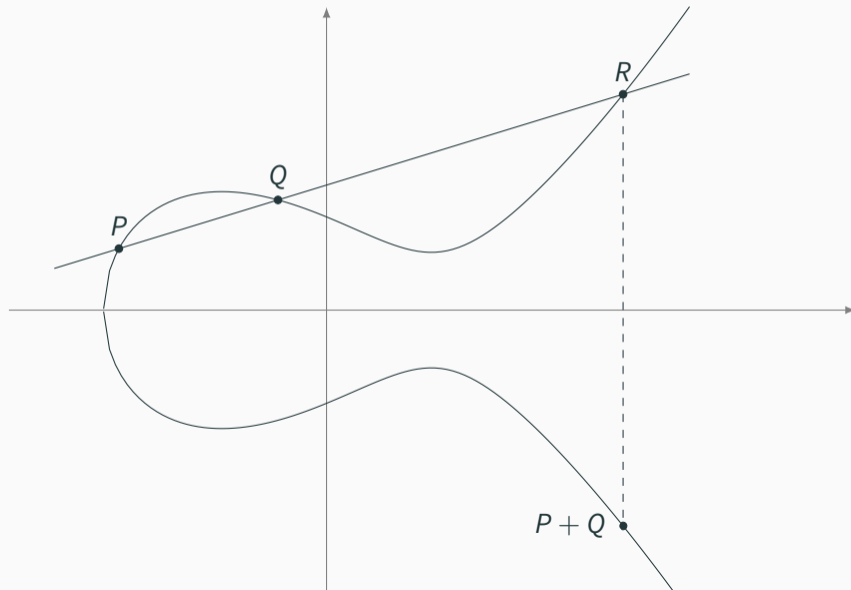
Up to isomorphism



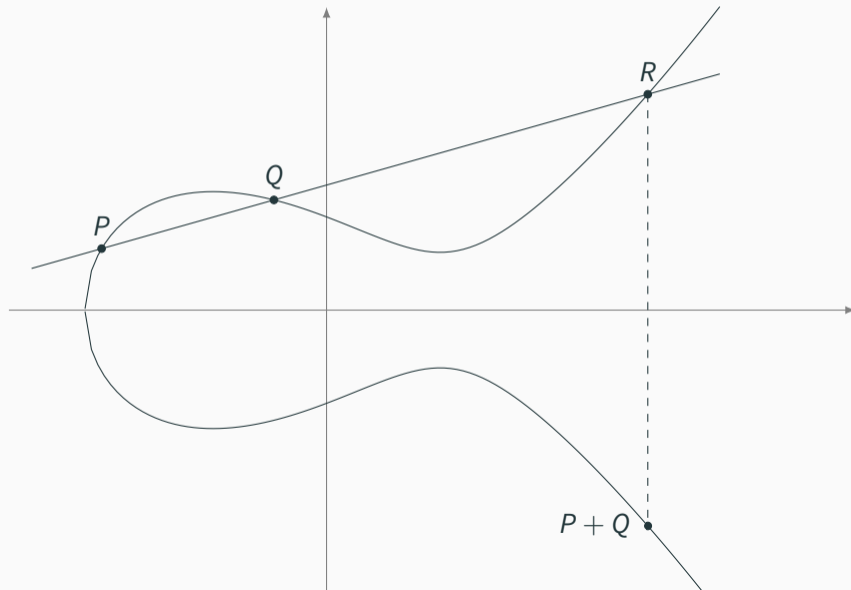
Up to isomorphism



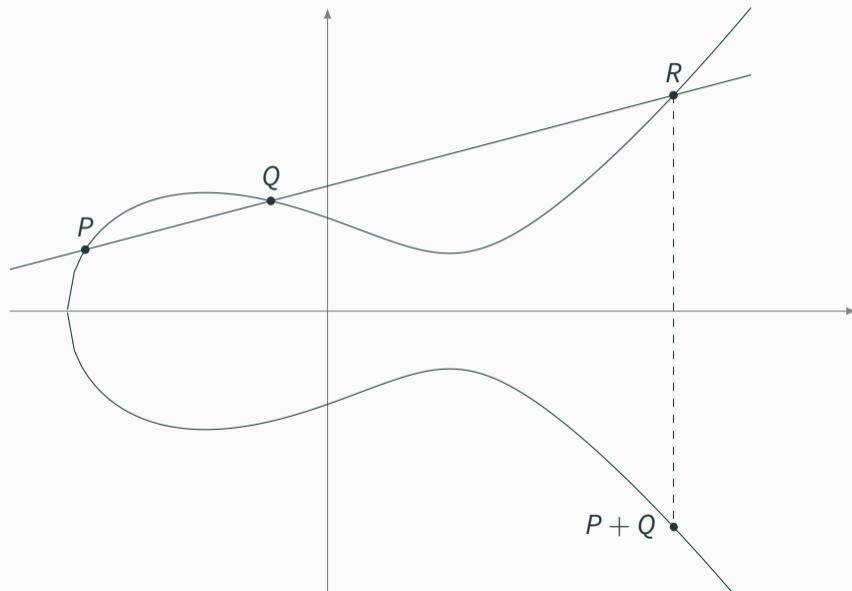
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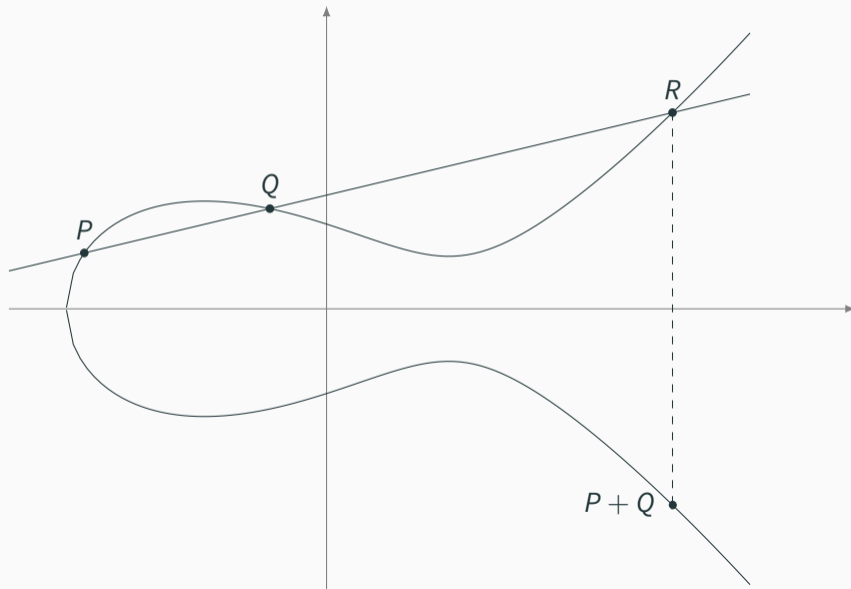
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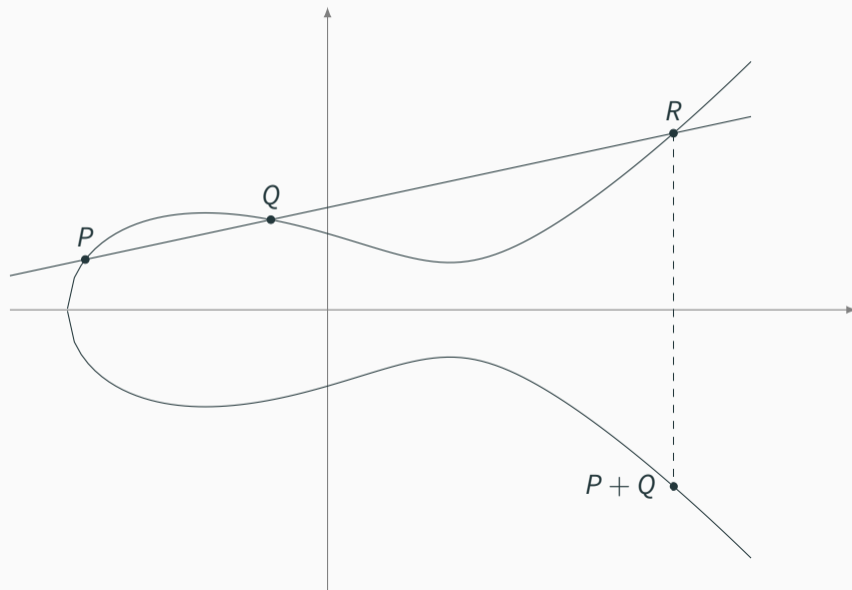
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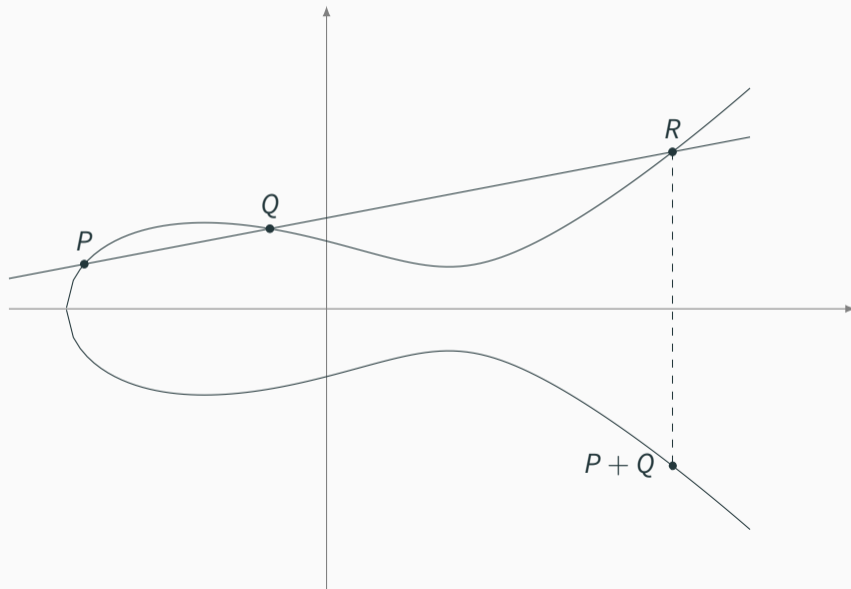
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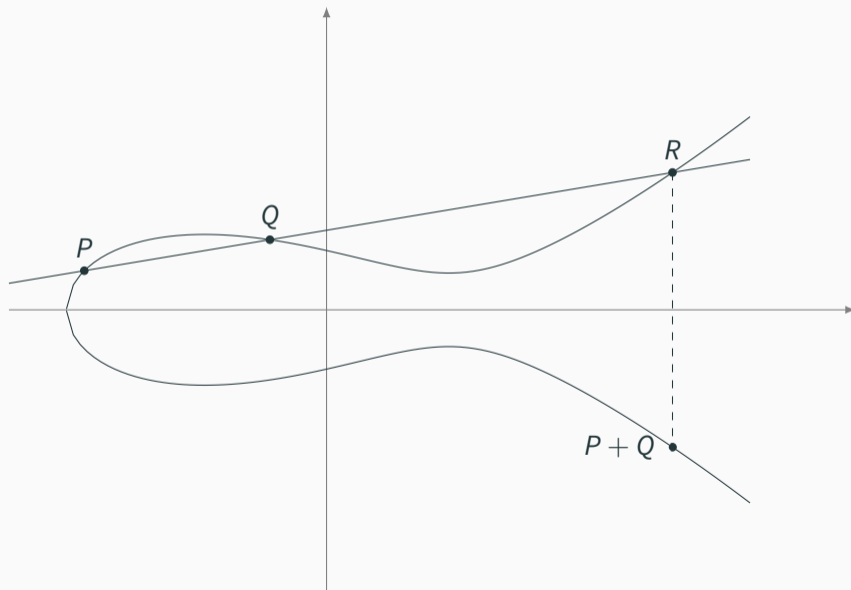
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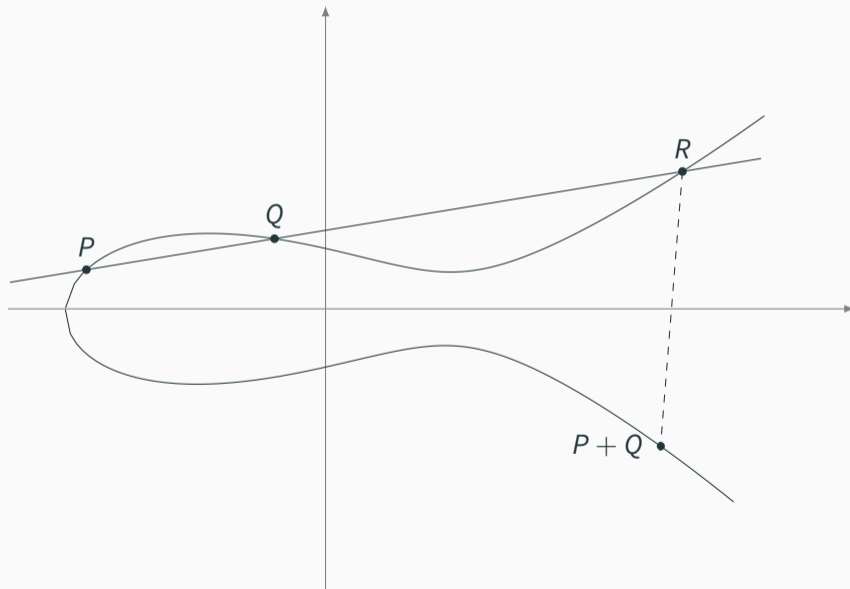
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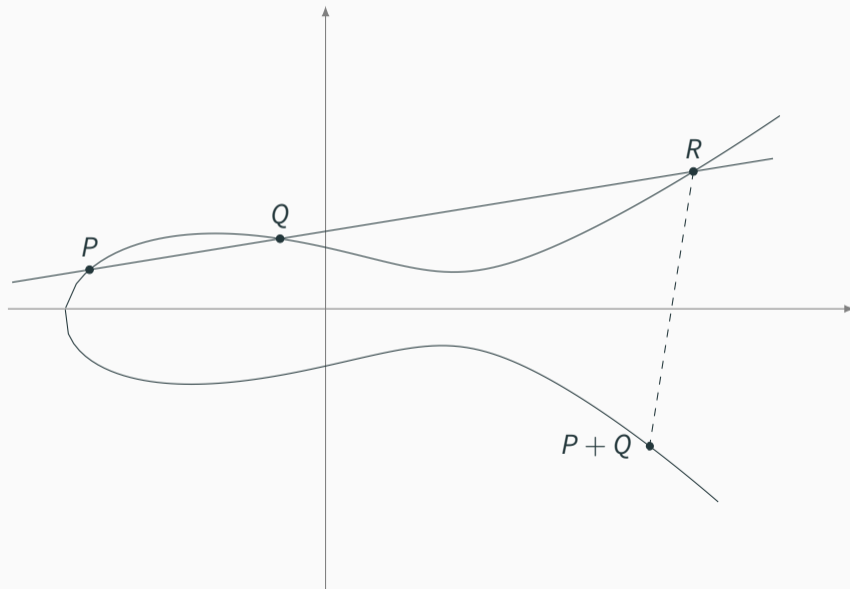
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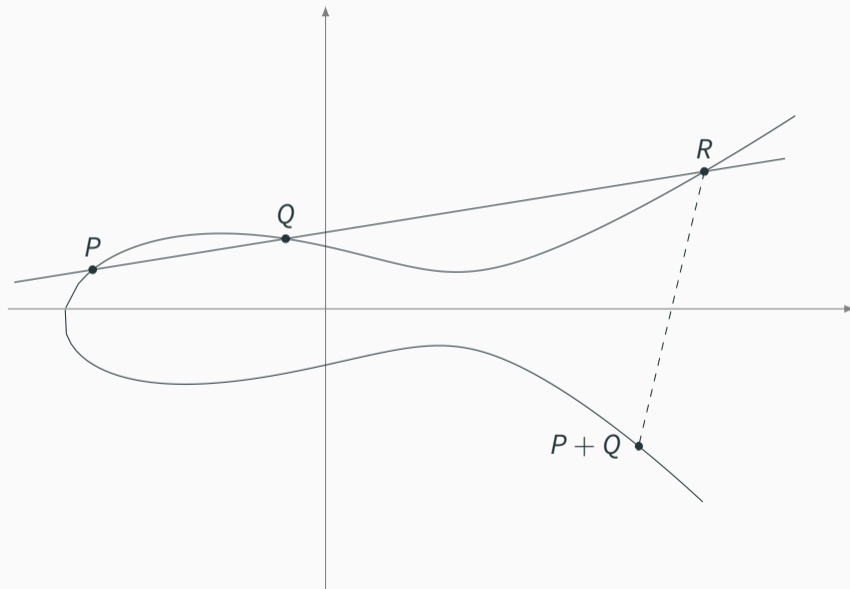
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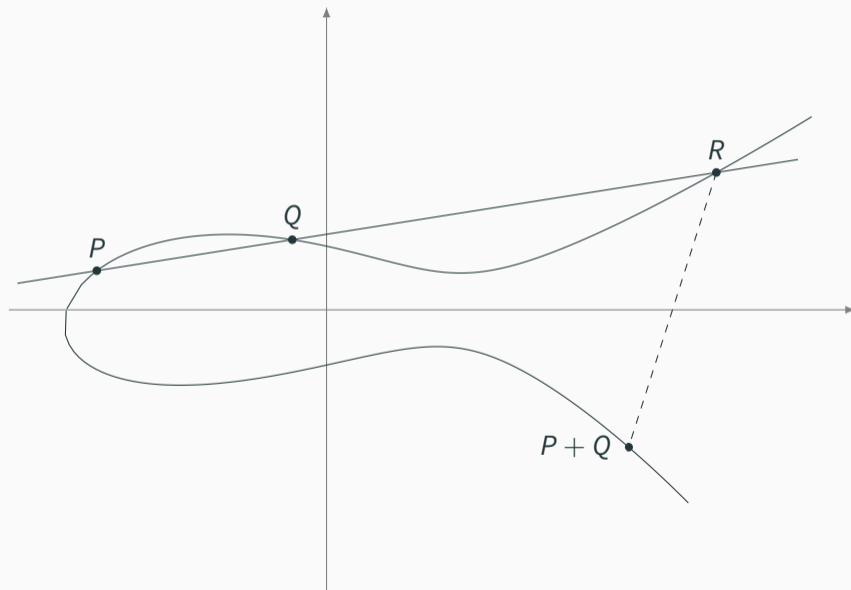
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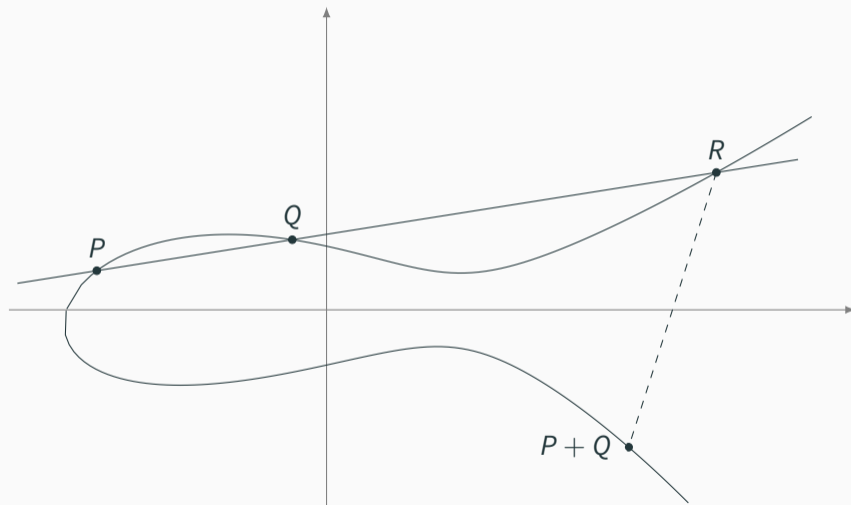
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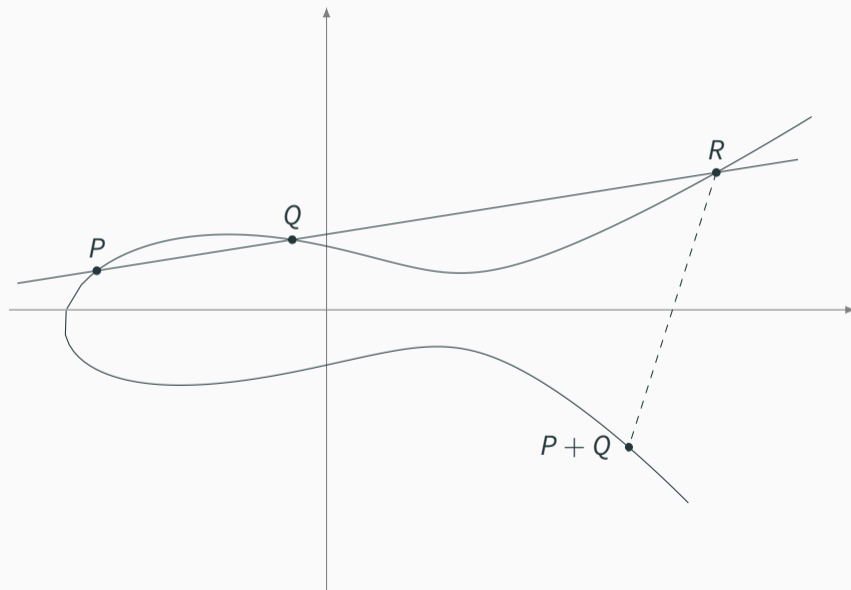


Up to isomorphism

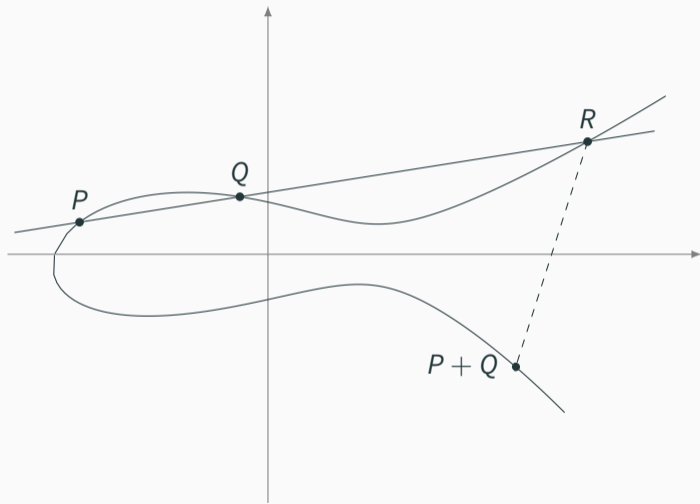


$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b \quad \longrightarrow \quad j \equiv 1728 \frac{4a^3}{4a^3 + 27b^2}$$

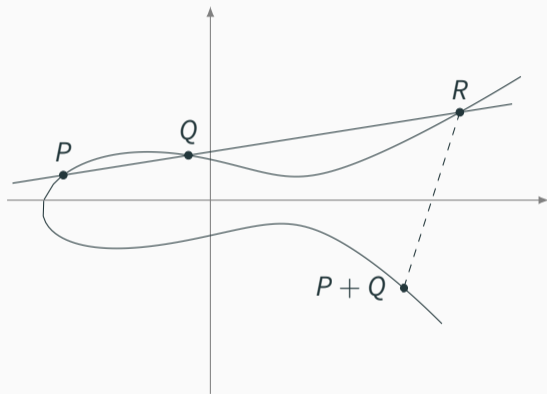
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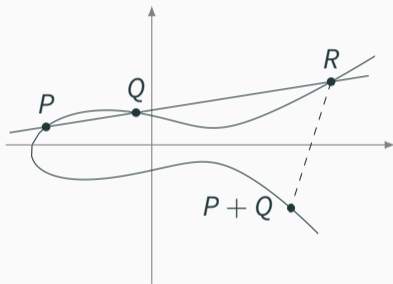
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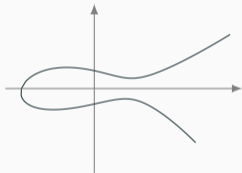
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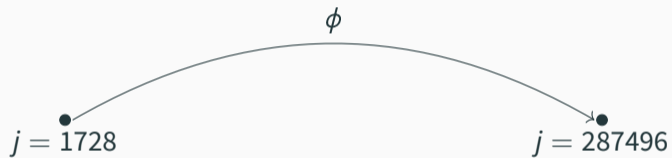


Up to isomorphism



$$j = \overset{\bullet}{1728}$$

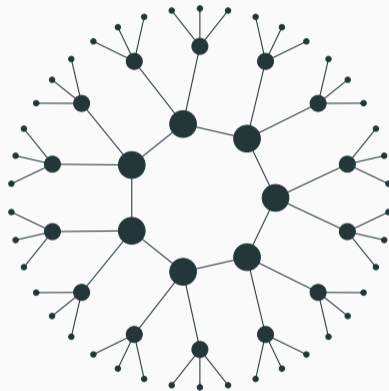
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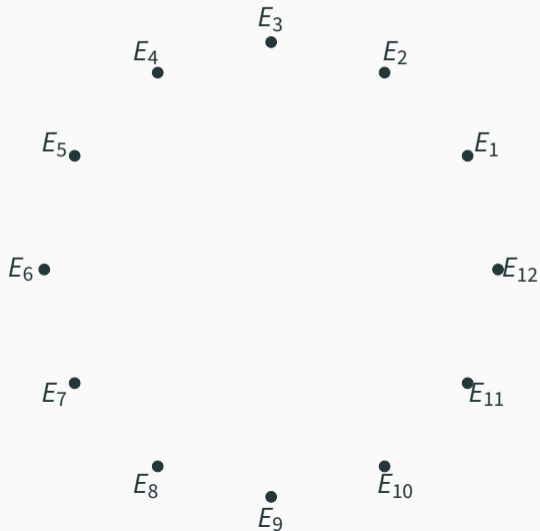
Isogeny graphs

Isogeny graphs

- Vertices are curves up to isomorphism,
- Edges are isogenies up to isomorphism.

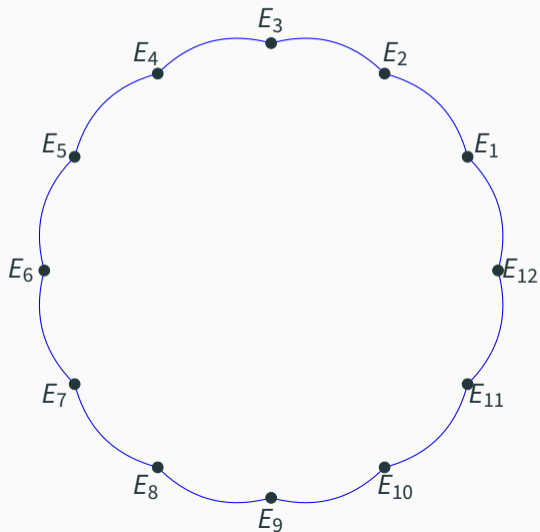


Isogeny graph



Vertices are elliptic curves **with complex multiplication by \mathcal{O}_K** (i.e., $\text{End}(E) \simeq \mathcal{O}_K \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$).

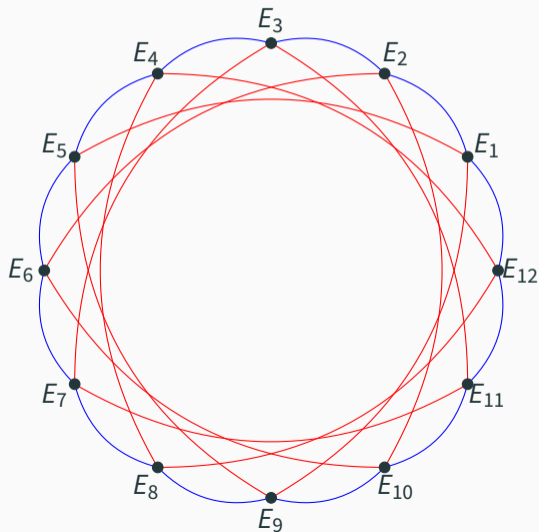
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Isogeny graph

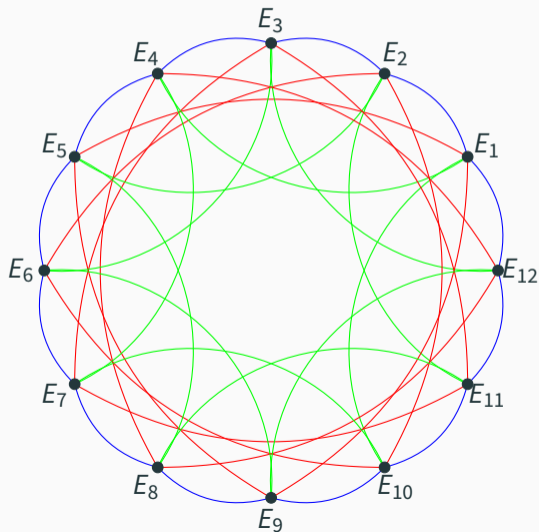


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— degree 3

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— degree 3

— degree 5

Class group action

Definition

The **class group** of an order $\mathcal{O} \subset \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-D})$ is the quotient $\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{O})/\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{O})$. It is a **finite abelian** group.

Theorem (Main theorem of complex multiplication)

The class group of \mathcal{O} acts **faithfully and transitively** on the set of elliptic curves with CM by \mathcal{O} (denoted by $\text{Ell}(\mathcal{O})$) with the **group action** as:

$$\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}) \times \text{Ell}(\mathcal{O}) \rightarrow \text{Ell}(\mathcal{O})$$

$$\mathfrak{a} \star E = E'$$

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Observation:

There is no meaningful operation between two elements of $\text{Ell}(\mathcal{O})$.

Definition (Group Action Inversion Problem (GAIP) [DFG19])

Given two elliptic curves E and E' over the same finite field and with

$\text{End}(E) = \text{End}(E') = \mathcal{O}$, find an ideal $\mathfrak{a} \subset \mathcal{O}$ such that $E' = \mathfrak{a} \star E$.

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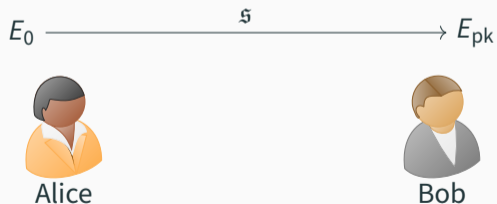
Definition (Isogeny walk problem)

Given two isogenous elliptic curves E and E' over the same finite field, find a path $E \rightarrow E'$ in an isogeny graph.

Isogeny-based Adaptor Signature

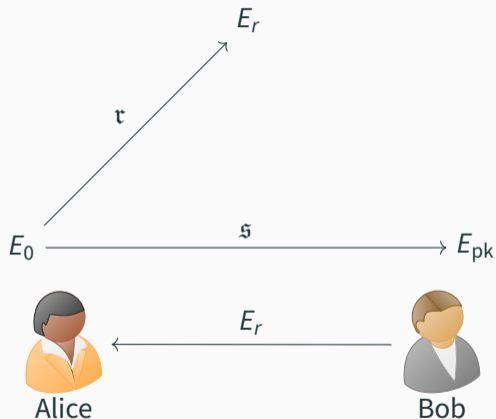
Identification scheme from isogenies

E_0 is a designated base (starting) curve that is part of public parameters.



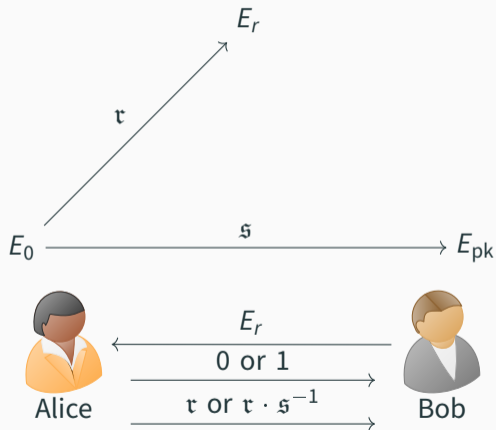
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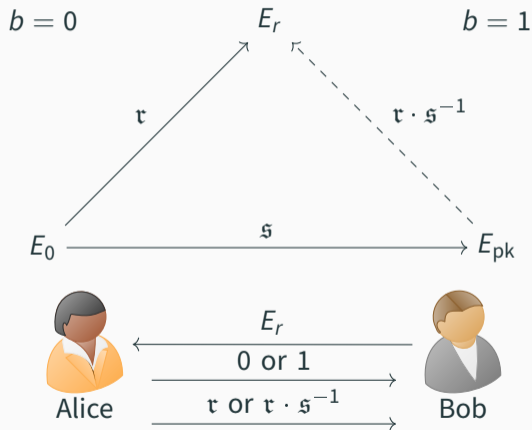
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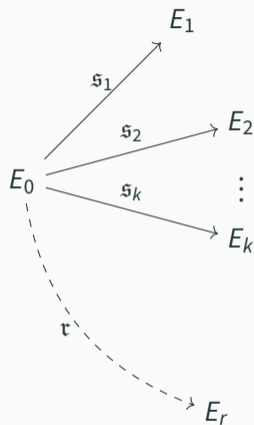


Increasing soundness

- The previous method only has soundness of $\frac{1}{2}$ due to limiting algebraic structure

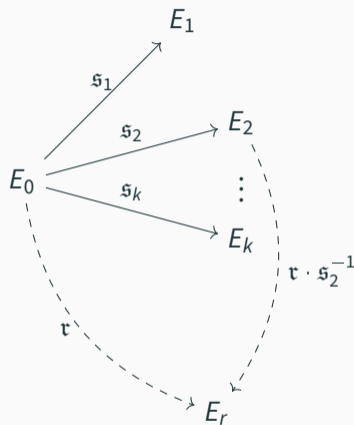
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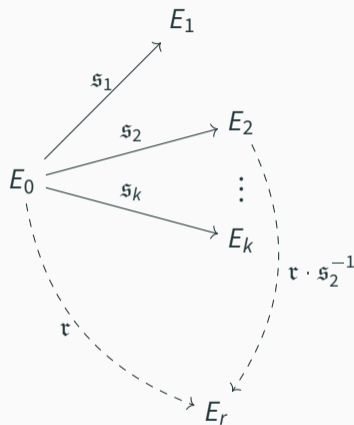
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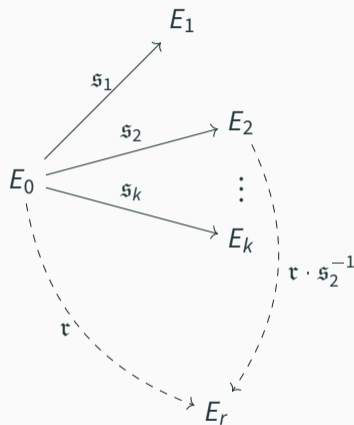
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- Using quadratic twists of the curves as in [BKV19], we can further reduce the cheating probability to $\frac{1}{2S-1}$
- To achieve security level λ , we require $t = \frac{\lambda}{\log_2 S}$ iterations.



Isogeny Adaptor Signature (IAS)

- Combining the previous approaches with Fiat-Shamir transform we obtain the isogeny-based signature scheme CSI-FiSh [BKV19]
- We can construct an adaptor signature from CSI-FiSh using GAIP as the hard relation (for simplicity we consider the base scheme with challenge space $\{0, 1\}$).

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Schnorr

procedure PreSig(sk, m, Y)

$k \leftarrow_{\$} \mathbb{Z}_p, R := g^k$

$e := H(\text{pk} \| R \cdot Y \| m)$

$\hat{s} := k + e \cdot \text{sk}$

return $\hat{\sigma} := (e, \hat{s})$

IAS [TMSM20]

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Observation:

We cannot combine E_R and E_Y as there is no meaningful operation between two elliptic curves from $\text{Ell}(\mathcal{O})$

Solution:

Randomize the statement E_Y with the group action of E_R and prove the relation between E_R and E_Y in ZK (i.e., a DH-tuple proof for isogenies) [TMSM20].

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Set $x := (E_0, E_R, E_Y, \hat{E}_R)$

$\pi \leftarrow \text{P}_{\text{NIZK}}(x, \mathfrak{k})$

$e := H(\text{pk} \parallel \hat{E}_R \parallel m)$

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procedure PreVer(pk, m , E_Y , $\hat{\sigma}$)

Parse pk as (E_0, E_1)

Parse $\hat{\sigma}$ as $(e, \hat{s}, \hat{E}_R, \pi)$

$E_R := \hat{s} \star \text{pk}_e$

Set $x := (E_0, E_R, E_Y, \hat{E}_R)$

if $\pi \leftarrow \text{V}_{\text{NIZK}}(x, \pi) \neq 1$ **then**

return 0

$e' = H(\text{pk} \parallel \hat{E}_R \parallel m)$

return $(e = e')$

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Randomize the statement E_Y with the group action of E_R and prove the relation between E_R and E_Y in ZK (i.e., a DH-tuple proof for isogenies) [TMSM20].

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Parse $\hat{\sigma}$ as $(e, \hat{s}, \hat{E}_R, \pi)$

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if $\pi \leftarrow \text{V}_{\text{NIZK}}(x, \pi) \neq 1$ **then**

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Adapt and Ext algorithms are analogous to Schnorr-based construction.

Zero-knowledge proof for group action

Cozzo and Smart [CS20] showed how to prove knowledge of a secret isogeny generically. More precisely, they showed a zero-knowledge proof for the following relation (i.e., knowledge of a witness \mathfrak{s} for j simultaneous instances of the GAIP):

$$L_j := \left\{ \left((E_1, E'_1, \dots, E_j, E'_j), \mathfrak{s} \right) : \bigwedge_{i=1}^j (E'_i = \mathfrak{s} \star E_i) \right\}.$$

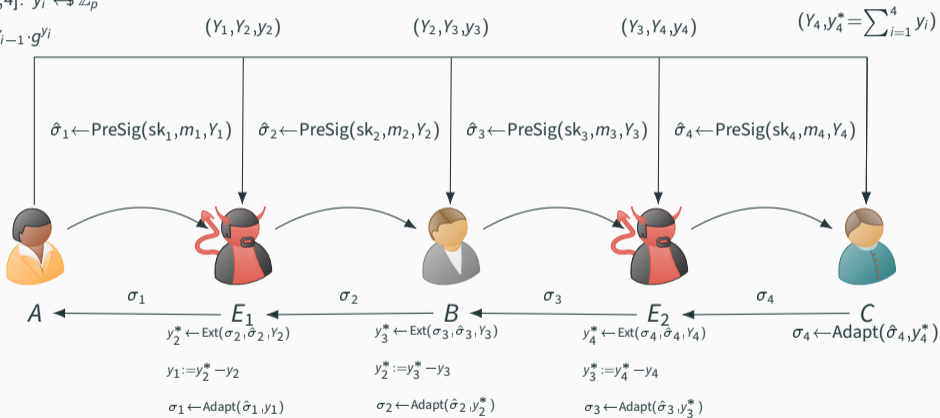
The proof simply involves running multiple iterations of the basic identification scheme to amplify the soundness. We note that we only need this for L_2 .

IAS-based PCN

$$y_1 \leftarrow \$ \mathbb{Z}_p; Y_1 := g^{y_1}$$

for $i \in [2, 4]$: $y_i \leftarrow \$ \mathbb{Z}_p$

$$Y_i := Y_{i-1} \cdot g^{y_i}$$



IAS-based PCN

$y_1 \leftarrow \$ \text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}); Y_1 := y_1 * E_0$

for $i \in [2, 4]: y_i \leftarrow \$ \text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$

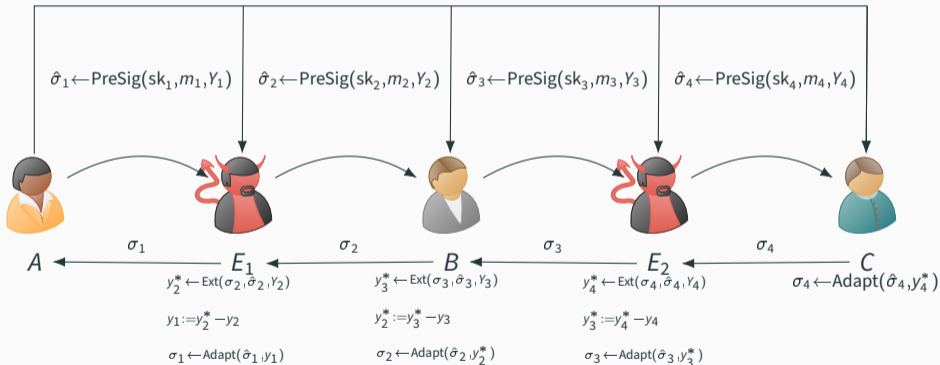
$Y_i := y_i * Y_{i-1}$

(Y_1, Y_2, Y_2)

(Y_2, Y_3, Y_3)

(Y_3, Y_4, Y_4)

$(Y_4, Y_4^* = \sum_{i=1}^4 y_i)$



Performance Evaluation

- C implementation, parallelized with OpenMP. Benchmarked on a KVM-based VM with 2.0GHz AMD EPYC 7702 processor with 16 cores and 32GB RAM, running Ubuntu 18.04 LTS
- Source code: <https://github.com/etairi/Adaptor-CSI-FiSh>

S	t_s	k	$ sk $	$ pk $	$ \hat{\sigma} $	$ \sigma $	KGen	Sig	Ver	PreSig	PreVer	Ext	Adapt
2^1	56	16	16	128	19944	1880	0.05	0.24	0.23	3.59	3.55	0.005	0.005
2^2	38	14	16	256	19672	1286	0.06	0.16	0.16	2.75	2.68	0.005	0.005
2^3	28	16	16	512	19020	956	0.07	0.13	0.14	2.21	2.15	0.005	0.005
2^4	23	13	16	1024	19338	791	0.07	0.11	0.11	1.99	1.94	0.005	0.005
2^6	16	16	16	4096	18624	560	0.29	0.08	0.09	1.61	1.56	0.005	0.005
2^8	13	11	16	16384	19330	461	1.00	0.08	0.08	1.50	1.44	0.005	0.005
2^{10}	11	7	16	65536	19908	395	3.21	0.06	0.06	1.40	1.36	0.005	0.005
2^{12}	9	11	16	262144	19198	329	12.89	0.06	0.06	1.30	1.25	0.005	0.005
2^{15}	7	16	16	2097152	18327	263	102.02	0.06	0.06	1.16	1.11	0.005	0.005




Open Problems

- Can we construct adaptor signatures from other post-quantum assumptions (e.g., multivariate quadratics, code-based, hash-based)?
- Can we transform SQISign [DFKL⁺20] into an adaptor signature to obtain a more efficient isogeny-based construction?






Thank you!

 @erkantairi

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