

Isogeny Group Actions

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Crypto(graphy) on graphs

Diffie–Hellman key exchange 1976

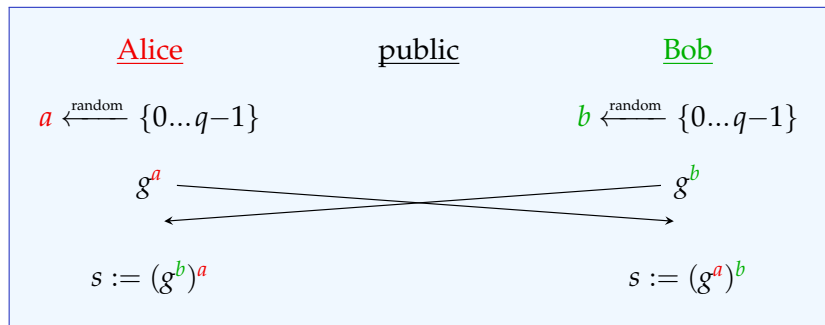
Public parameters:

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- ▶ an element $g \in G$ of prime order q

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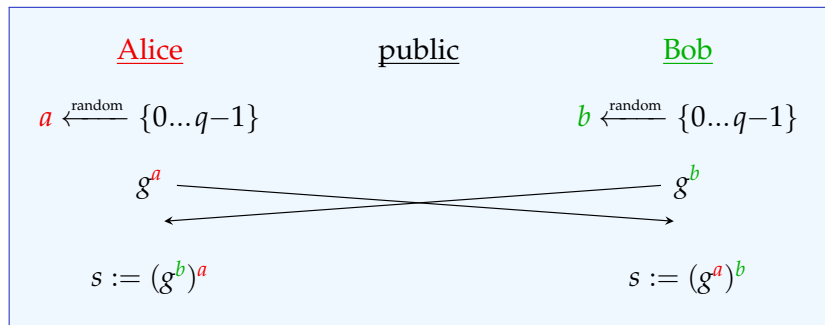
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Fundamental reason this works: \cdot^a and \cdot^b are **commutative**!

Diffie–Hellman: Bob vs. Eve

Bob

1. Set $t \leftarrow g$.
2. Set $t \leftarrow t \cdot g$.
3. Set $t \leftarrow t \cdot g$.
4. Set $t \leftarrow t \cdot g$.

...

b -2. Set $t \leftarrow t \cdot g$.

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b . Publish $B \leftarrow t \cdot g$.

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Is this a good idea?

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Attacker Eve

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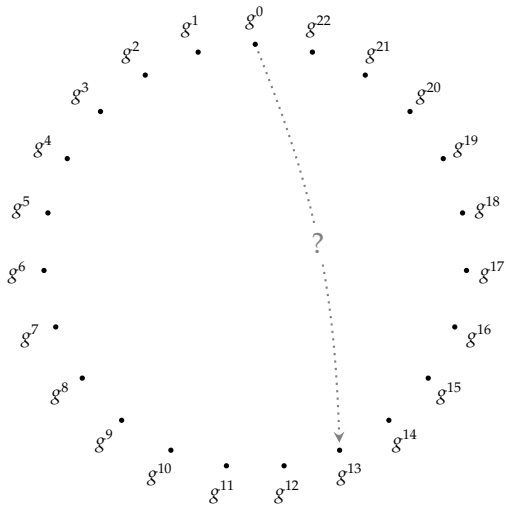
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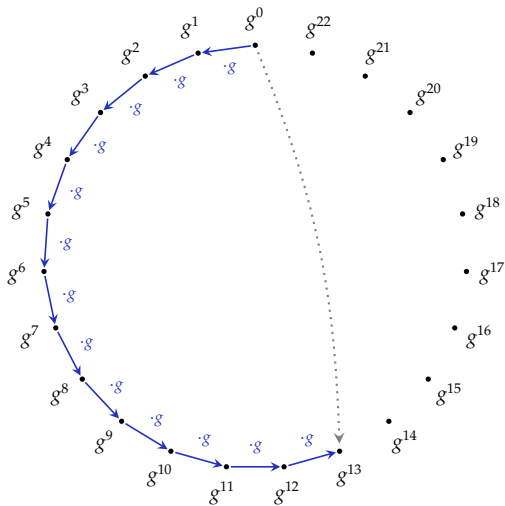
Effort for both: $O(\#G)$. Bob needs to be smarter.

(This attacker is also kind of dumb, but that doesn't matter for my point here.)



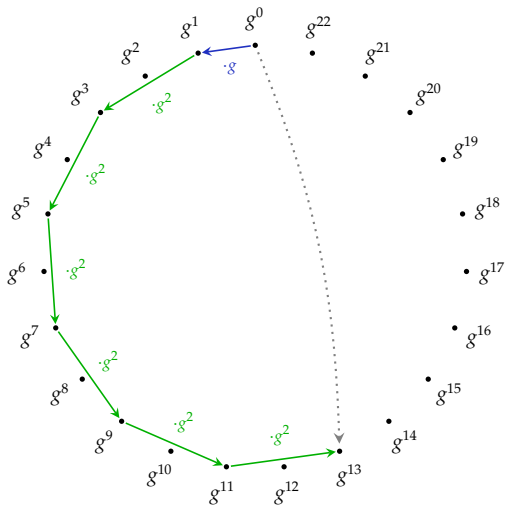
Bob computes his public key g^{13} from g .

multiply



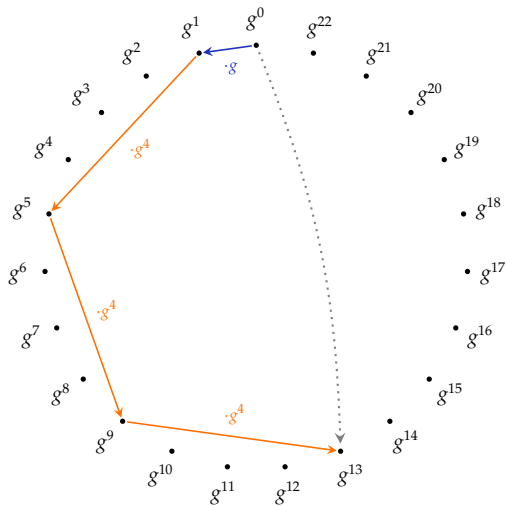
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Square-and-multiply



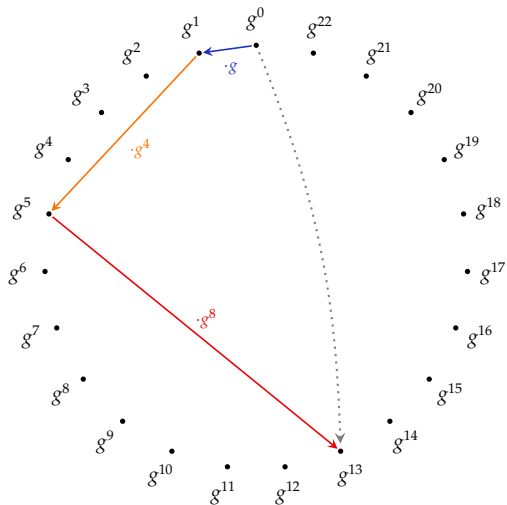
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Square-and-multiply-and-square-and-multiply



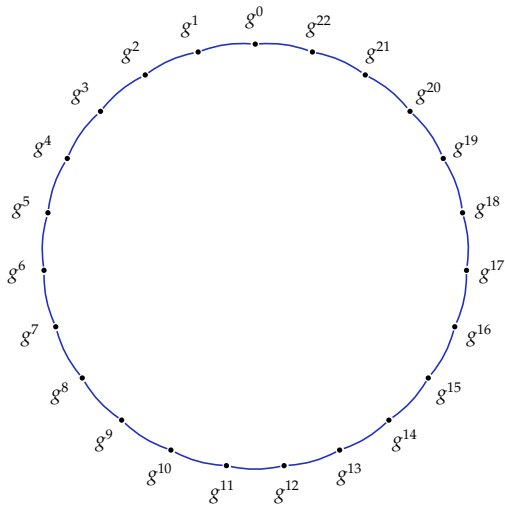
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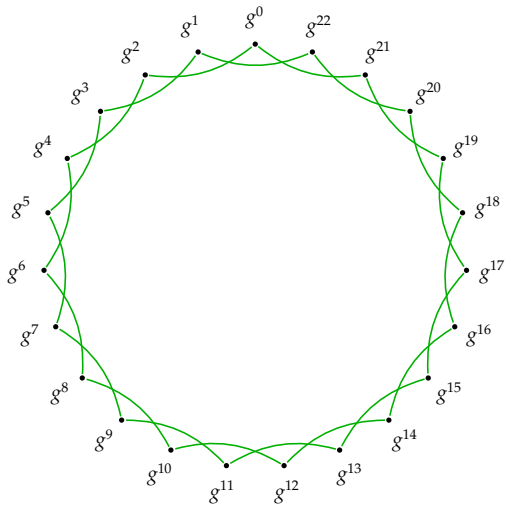


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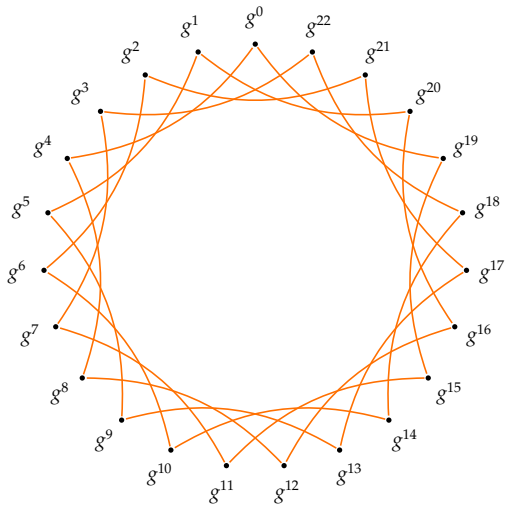
Square-and-multiply as graphs



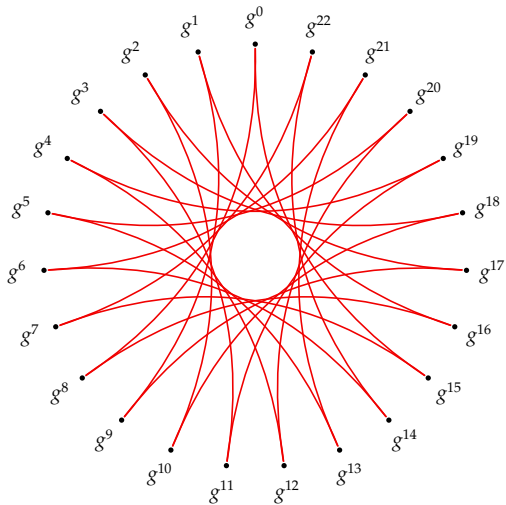
Square-and-multiply as graphs



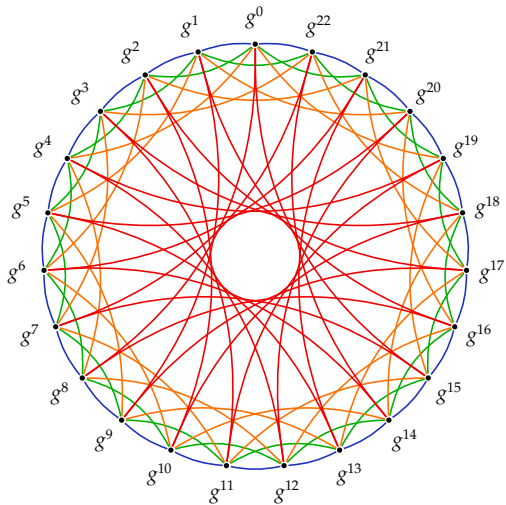
Square-and-multiply as graphs



Square-and-multiply as graphs



Square-and-multiply as a graph



Crypto on graphs?

We've been doing it all the time!

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Shor's quantum algorithm computes α from g^α in any group in polynomial time.

In some cases,

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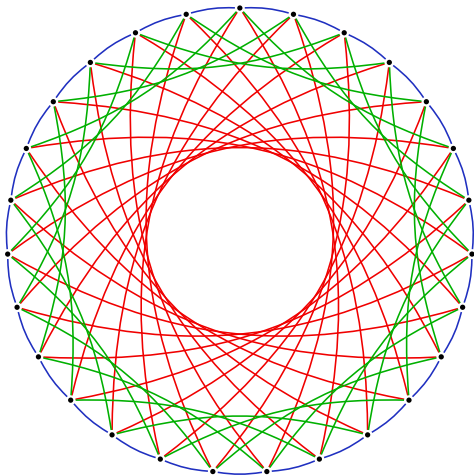
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can replace ^{some} DLP-based constructions post-quantumly.

Components of particular isogeny graphs look like this:



Plan for this lecture

- ▶ High-level **overview** for intuition. ✓
- ▶ Recap: Elliptic curves & **isogenies**.
- ▶ The **CSIDH** non-interactive key exchange.
- ▶ Classical and quantum **security** of CSIDH.
- ▶ **Orientations** and the **SCALLOP** family.
- ▶ *Unrestricted* **effective group actions**.

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Reminder:

A **rational function** is $f(x, y)/g(x, y)$ where f, g are **polynomials**.

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The **kernel** of an isogeny $\varphi: E \rightarrow E'$ is $\{P \in E : \varphi(P) = \infty\}$.
The **degree** of a separable* isogeny is the size of its **kernel**.

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Example #1: $(x, y) \mapsto \left(\frac{x^3 - 4x^2 + 30x - 12}{(x-2)^2}, \frac{x^3 - 6x^2 - 14x + 35}{(x-2)^3} \cdot y \right)$

defines a degree-3 isogeny of the elliptic curves

$$\{y^2 = x^3 + x\} \longrightarrow \{y^2 = x^3 - 3x + 3\}$$

over \mathbb{F}_{71} . Its kernel is $\{(2, 9), (2, -9), \infty\}$.

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Example #2: For each $m \neq 0$, the multiplication-by- m map

$$[m]: E \rightarrow E$$

is a degree- m^2 isogeny.

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Important fact: An isogeny φ is **\mathbb{F}_q -rational** iff $\pi \circ \varphi = \varphi \circ \pi$.

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sage: mu.rational_maps()
((x^25 + x^23 + ... + 14*x^3 + 25*x)
 / (25*x^24 + 14*x^22 - ... + x^2 + 1),
 (50*x^36*y + 20*x^34*y + ... + 45*x^2*y + 48*y)
 / (-12*x^36 - 2*x^34 + ... - 26*x^2 + 50))
```

Isogenies and kernels

For any **finite** subgroup G of E , there exists a **unique**¹ separable* isogeny $\varphi_G: E \rightarrow E'$ with **kernel** G .

¹(up to isomorphism of E')

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↪ **Decompose** large-degree isogenies into **prime steps**.
That is: **Walk** in an **isogeny graph**.

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sage: K = E(80,30)
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Isogeny of degree 7
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sage: phi.rational_maps()
((x^7 + 129*x^6 - ... + 25)/(x^6 + 129*x^5 - ... + 36),
 (x^9*y - 16*x^8*y - ... + 70*y)/(x^9 - 16*x^8 + ...))
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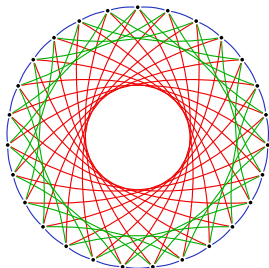
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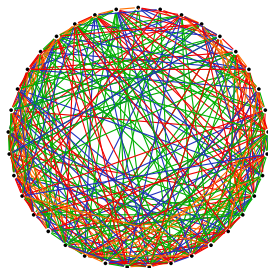
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Example components containing $E: y^2 = x^3 + x$:



$$k = \mathbb{F}_{419}, S = \{3, 5, 7\}$$



$$k = \mathbb{F}_{4312}, S = \{2, 3, 5, 7\}.$$

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Solution:

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- ▶ E/\mathbb{F}_p is supersingular if and only if $\#E(\mathbb{F}_p) = p+1$.
- ▶ In that case, $E(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathbb{Z}/(p+1)$ and
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(All curves are supersingular until about 14:00.)

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- ▶ Recap: Elliptic curves & **isogenies**. ✓
- ▶ The **CSIDH** non-interactive key exchange.
- ▶ Classical and quantum **security** of CSIDH.
- ▶ **Orientations** and the **SCALLOP** family.
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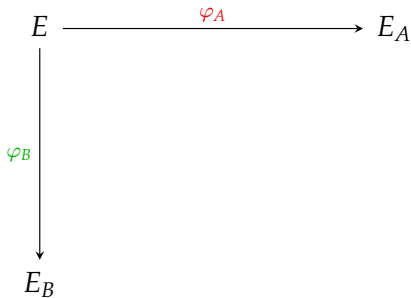
CSIDH ['siː,saɪd]

[Castrыck-Lange-Martindale-Panny-Renes 2018]

Isogeny-based key exchange: High-level view

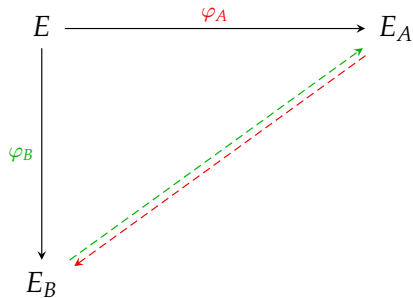
E

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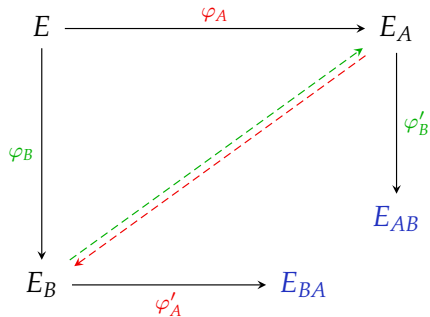
- ▶ Alice & Bob pick secret $\varphi_A: E \rightarrow E_A$ and $\varphi_B: E \rightarrow E_B$.
(These isogenies correspond to **walking** on the **isogeny graph**.)

Isogeny-based key exchange: High-level view



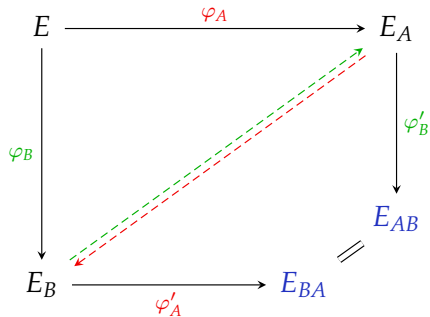
- ▶ Alice & Bob pick secret $\varphi_A: E \rightarrow E_A$ and $\varphi_B: E \rightarrow E_B$.
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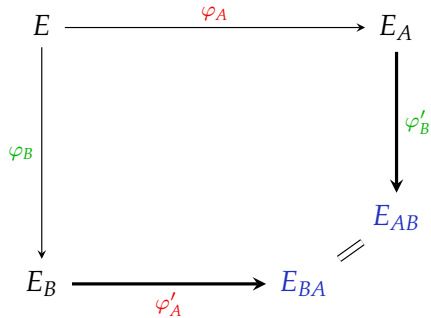
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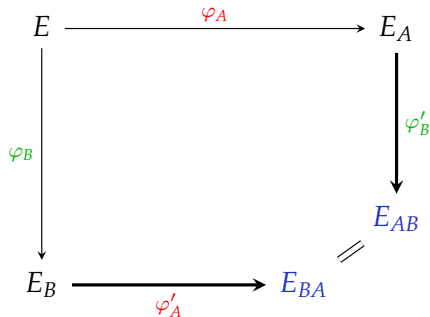


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- ▶ Alice and Bob transmit the end curves E_A and E_B .
- ▶ Alice somehow finds a “parallel” $\varphi'_A: E_B \rightarrow E_{BA}$, and Bob somehow finds $\varphi'_B: E_A \rightarrow E_{AB}$, such that $E_{AB} \cong E_{BA}$.

How to find “parallel” isogenies?



How to find “parallel” isogenies?



CSIDH's solution (earlier: Couveignes, Rostovtsev–Stolbunov):

Use **special** isogenies φ_A which can be transported to the curve E_B totally **independently** of the secret isogeny φ_B .

(Similarly with reversed roles, of course.)

“Special” isogenies

Let E/\mathbb{F}_p be supersingular and recall $E(\mathbb{F}_p) \cong \mathbb{Z}/(p+1)$.

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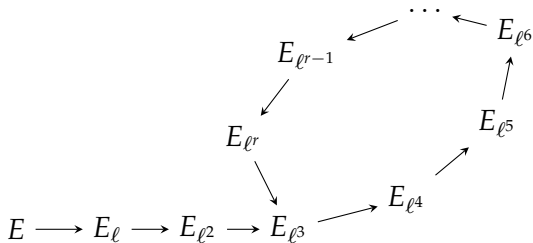
We consider prime ℓ and refer to φ_ℓ as a “**special**” isogeny.

Cycles from “special” isogenies

What happens when we *iterate* such a “special” isogeny?

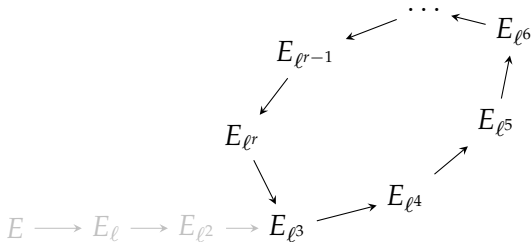
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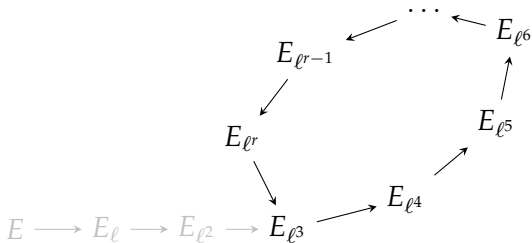
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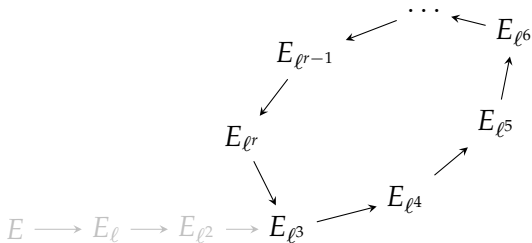
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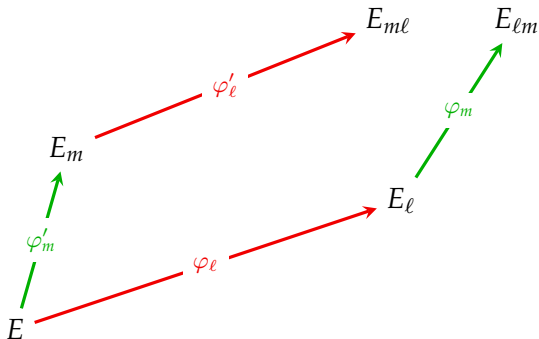
\implies The “special” isogenies φ_ℓ form **isogeny cycles**!

Compatible cycles from “special” isogenies

What happens when we **compose** those “special” isogenies?

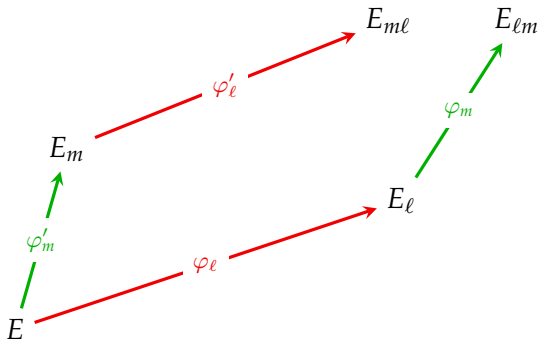
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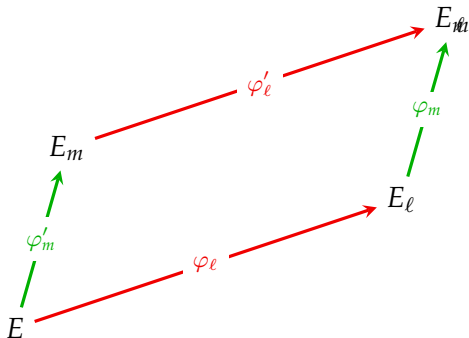
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- Exercise: $\ker(\varphi'_l \circ \varphi'_m) = \ker(\varphi_m \circ \varphi_l) = \langle \ker \varphi_l, \ker \varphi'_m \rangle$.

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- Exercise: $\ker(\varphi'_l \circ \varphi'_m) = \ker(\varphi_m \circ \varphi_l) = \langle \ker \varphi_l, \ker \varphi'_m \rangle$.
- !! The order cannot matter \implies cycles must be **compatible**.

CSIDH in one slide

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- ▶ Choose some **small odd primes** ℓ_1, \dots, ℓ_n .
- ▶ Make sure $p = 4 \cdot \ell_1 \cdots \ell_n - 1$ is prime.

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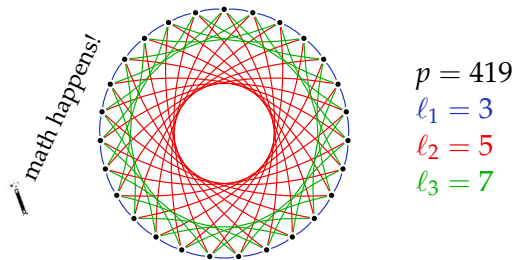
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- ▶ Look at the “**special**” ℓ_i -isogenies within X .

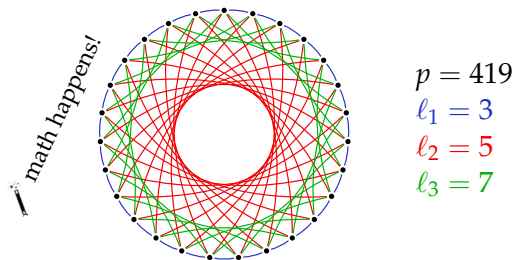
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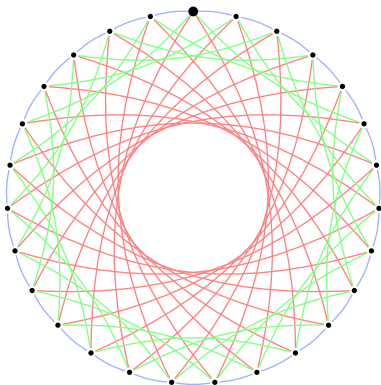


- ▶ Walking “left” and “right” on any ℓ_i -subgraph is **efficient**.

CSIDH key exchange

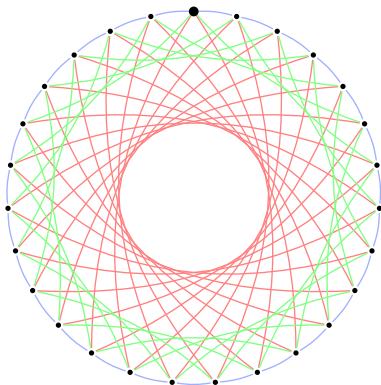
Alice

[+, +, -, -]



Bob

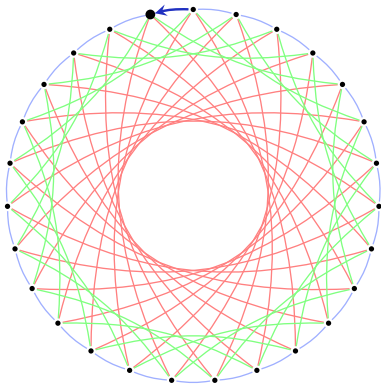
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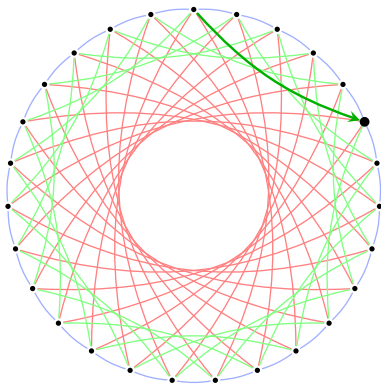
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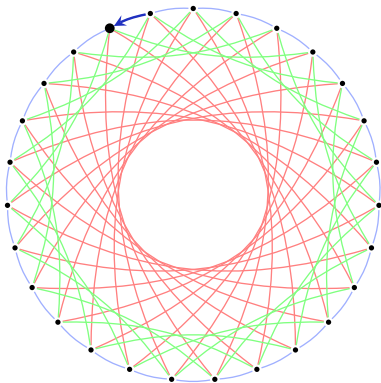
$[\uparrow, -, +, -, -]$



CSIDH key exchange

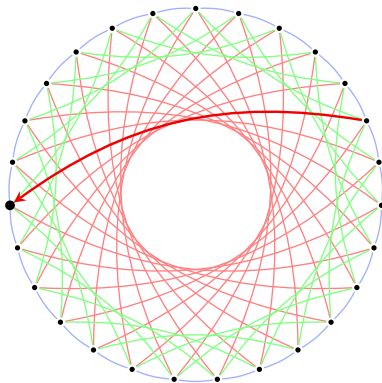
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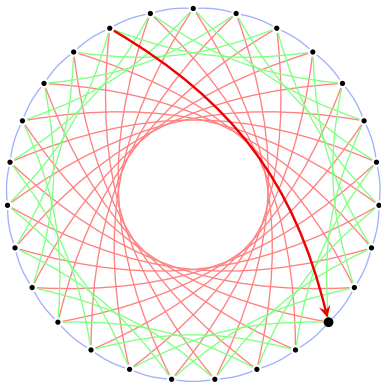
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CSIDH key exchange

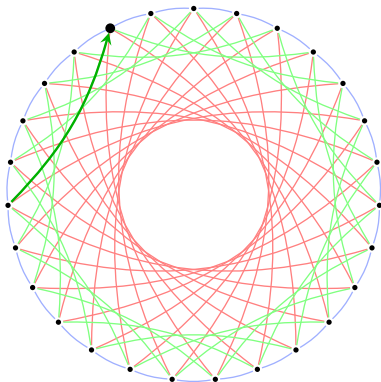
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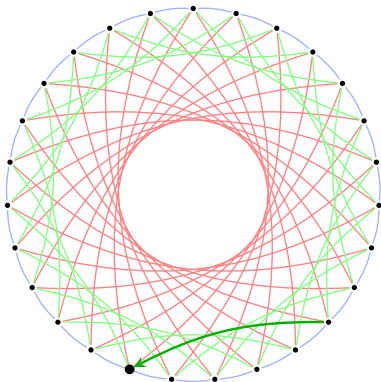
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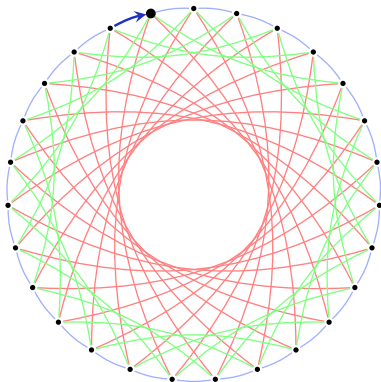
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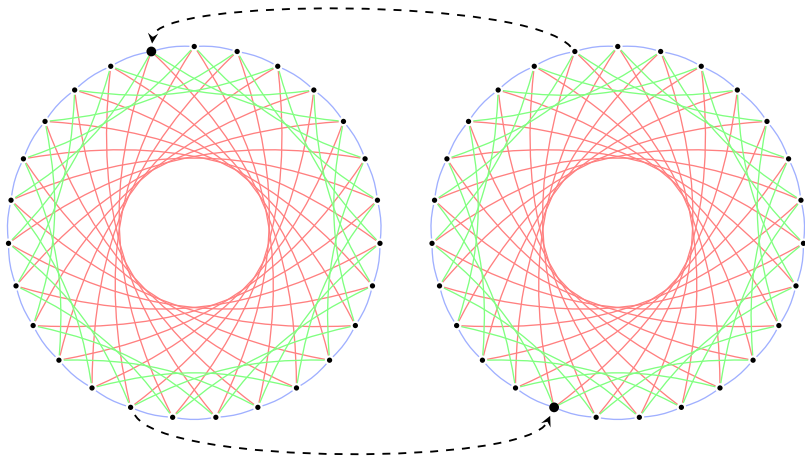
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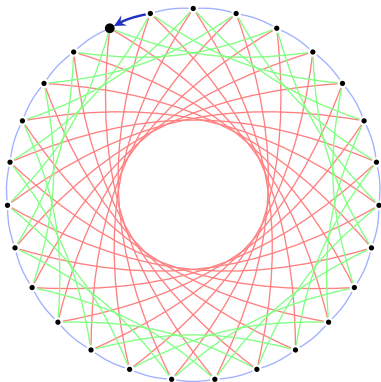
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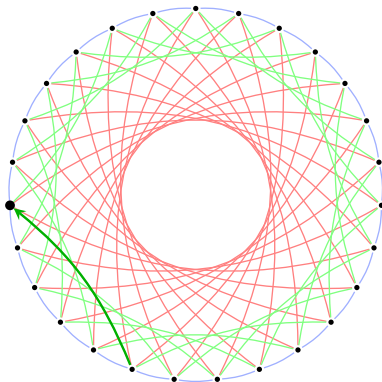
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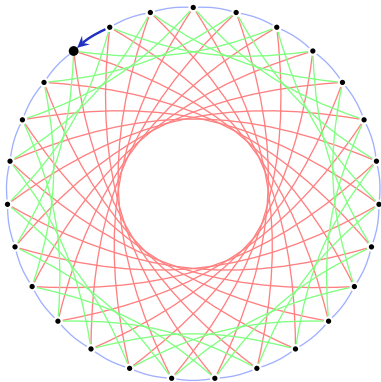
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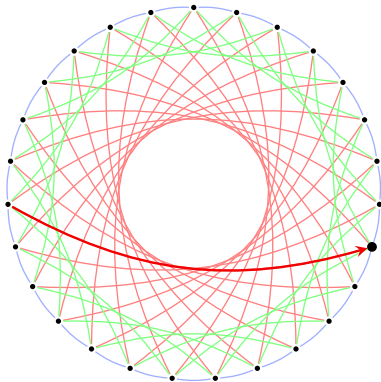
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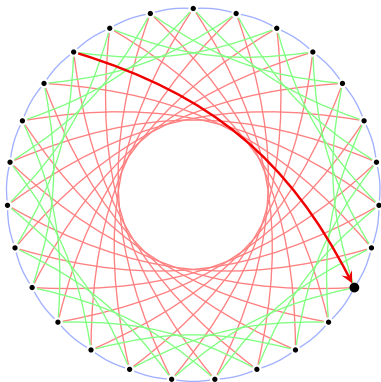
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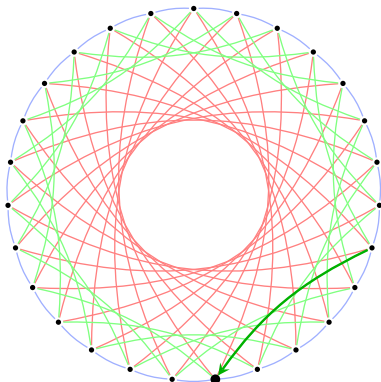
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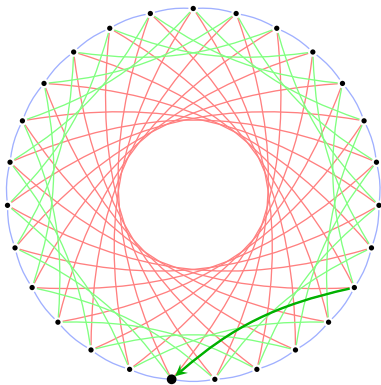
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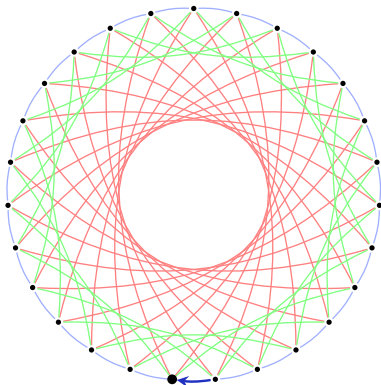
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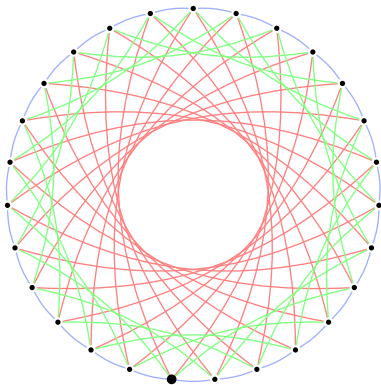
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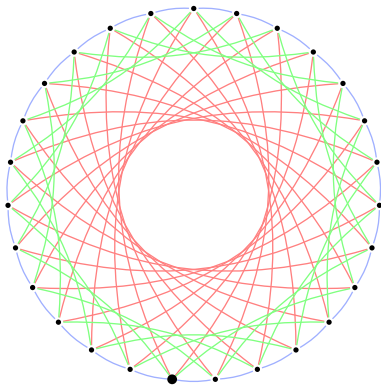
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There is a **group action** of $(\mathbb{Z}^n, +)$ on our **set of curves** X !

(An **action** of a group (G, \cdot) on a set X is a map $*$: $G \times X \rightarrow X$

such that $id * x = x$ and $g * (h * x) = (g \cdot h) * x$ for all $g, h \in G$ and $x \in X$.)

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!! This group characterizes *when two paths lead to the same curve*.

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- ▶ Recall: “Left” and “right” steps correspond to isogenies with **special** subgroups of E as **kernels**.

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(Finding a point of order ℓ_i : Pick $x \in \mathbb{F}_p$ random. Find $y \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ such that $P = (x, y) \in E$. Compute $Q = [\frac{p+1}{\ell_i}]P$. Hope that $Q \neq \infty$, else retry.)

In SageMath:

```
sage: E = EllipticCurve(GF(419^2), [1,0])
sage: E
Elliptic Curve defined by  $y^2 = x^3 + x$ 
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sage: while True:
....:     x = GF(419).random_element()
....:     try:
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....:     except ValueError: continue
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sage: P
(218 : 403 : 1)
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sage: P
(218 : 403 : 1)
sage: P.order().factor()
2 * 3 * 7
sage: EE = E.isogeny_codomain(2*3*P) # "left" 7-step
sage: EE
Elliptic Curve defined by  $y^2 = x^3 + 285x + 87$ 
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Efficient x -only arithmetic

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The same reasoning works for **isogeny formulas**.

Net result: With x -only arithmetic everything happens **over** \mathbb{F}_p .

\implies (Relatively) **efficient** CSIDH implementations!

Plan for this lecture

- ▶ High-level **overview** for intuition. ✓
- ▶ Recap: Elliptic curves & **isogenies**. ✓
- ▶ The **CSIDH** non-interactive key exchange. ✓
- ▶ Classical and quantum **security** of CSIDH.
- ▶ **Orientations** and the **SCALLOP** family.
- ▶ *Unrestricted* **effective group actions**.

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\uparrow

For group actions, we simply cannot compose $a * s$ and $b * s$!

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Core problem:

Given $E, E' \in X$, **find** a path $E \rightarrow E'$ in the isogeny graph.

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The **size** of X is $\#\text{cl}(\mathbb{Z}[\sqrt{-p}]) = 3 \cdot h(-p) \approx \sqrt{p}$.

\rightsquigarrow best known classical attack: **meet-in-the-middle**, $\tilde{O}(p^{1/4})$.

Fully exponential: Complexity $\exp((\log p)^{1+o(1)})$.

Security of CSIDH

Core problem:

Given $E, E' \in X$, **find** a path $E \rightarrow E'$ in the isogeny graph.

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Solving **abelian hidden shift** breaks CSIDH.

\rightsquigarrow non-devastating quantum attack (Kuperberg's algorithm).

Subexponential: Complexity $\exp((\log p)^{1/2+o(1)})$.

CSIDH vs. Kuperberg

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\implies Security estimates for CSIDH **vary wildly**.

Plan for this lecture

- ▶ High-level **overview** for intuition. ✓
- ▶ Recap: Elliptic curves & **isogenies**. ✓
- ▶ The **CSIDH** non-interactive key exchange. ✓
- ▶ Classical and quantum **security** of CSIDH. ✓
- ▶ **Orientations** and the **SCALLOP** family.
- ▶ *Unrestricted* **effective group actions**.

More endomorphisms

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Fact: If $\varphi: E \rightarrow E'$ is an isogeny for which $\ker(\varphi)$ is **described in terms of scalars and some endomorphism $\tau \in \text{End}(E)$** , then we can usually* **push τ through φ** :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{Z}[\tau] &\hookrightarrow \text{End}(E') \\ \tau &\longmapsto (\varphi \circ \tau \circ \widehat{\varphi}) / \deg(\varphi)\end{aligned}$$

* Devils in details.

Ideals \leftrightarrow kernels

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\rightsquigarrow Connection to the “class set” or **class group**:

ideals	\longleftrightarrow	kernels	\longleftrightarrow	isogenies
ideal <i>classes</i>	\longleftrightarrow	(no name)	\longleftrightarrow	isogeny <i>codomains</i>

Orientations & oriented curves

Let $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\tau]$ be an imaginary-quadratic order.

(Standard cases: $\tau = \sqrt{-d}$ or $\tau = \frac{1+\sqrt{-d}}{2}$ where $d \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 1}$.)

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Example: Any nonscalar endomorphism $\tau \in \text{End}(E) \setminus \mathbb{Z}$ defines an orientation of $\mathcal{O} := \mathbb{Z}[\tau]$ on E .

The oriented class-group action

Onuki 2020 (previously Kohel–Colò without proof):

Theorem 3.4. *Let K be an imaginary quadratic field such that p does not split in K , and \mathcal{O} an order in K such that p does not divide the conductor of \mathcal{O} . Then the ideal class group $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{O})$ acts freely and transitively on $\rho(\mathcal{E}\ell(\mathcal{O}))$.*

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$\rho(\mathcal{E}\ell(\mathcal{O}))$: a set of supersingular elliptic curves E over \mathbb{F}_{p^2} with a primitive orientation $\iota: \mathcal{O} \hookrightarrow \text{End}(E)$, up to oriented isomorphism.

- ▶ $\iota: \mathcal{O} \hookrightarrow \text{End}(E)$ is *primitive* if $(\iota(\mathcal{O}) \otimes_{\mathbb{Z}} \mathbb{Q}) \cap \text{End}(E) = \iota(\mathcal{O})$.
- ▶ $\alpha: (E, \iota) \rightarrow (E', \iota')$ is an *oriented* isomorphism if $\alpha \circ \iota = \iota' \circ \alpha$.

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The group action is defined as follows:

$$\mathfrak{a} \star (E, \iota) := (E/\mathfrak{a}, (\phi_{\mathfrak{a}} \circ \iota \circ \widehat{\phi}_{\mathfrak{a}})/\text{norm}(\mathfrak{a}))$$

where $\phi_{\mathfrak{a}}: E \rightarrow E/\mathfrak{a}$ is the isogeny with kernel

$$E[\mathfrak{a}] := \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{a}} \ker(\iota(\alpha)).$$

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Fun fact: Orienting E/\mathbb{F}_p by $\sqrt{-p} \mapsto -\pi$ gives exactly the same picture, but everything is mirrored along “quadratic twisting”:

$$\{y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + x\} \xrightarrow{\sim} \{y^2 = x^3 - Ax^2 + x\}$$

Representing orientations

To turn the previous theorem into a concrete group action for general \mathcal{O} , we need to specify how to **encode** the pair (E, ι) :

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- ↪ In practice, an oriented curve is given as a pair (E, ϑ) with $\vartheta \in \text{End}(E)$, implicitly communicating that $\vartheta = \iota(\tau)$.
- ▶ There are multiple options for representing such a ϑ .
Simple example: A deterministically chosen **generator point** of $\ker(\vartheta)$.
More complicated: Deterministic **“HD” representation** (SCALLOP-HD).

Oriented isogeny group actions: Why?

- ▶ Key point: Orientations allow us to **decouple** the **discriminant of \mathcal{O}** from the **characteristic p** .

This is advantageous for at least two reasons (see next part):

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- ↪ For Clapoti, we have to solve **norm equations** that are **derived from \mathcal{O}** for target values **derived from p** .

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The basic strategy à la C/R-S

- ▶ Let $\mathfrak{l}_1, \dots, \mathfrak{l}_n$ be **small** prime ideals of \mathcal{O} , and suppose \mathfrak{a} is given to us in the form $\mathfrak{a} = \mathfrak{l}_1^{e_1} \cdots \mathfrak{l}_n^{e_n}$.
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- ▶ Optimizations: Batch multiple \mathfrak{l}_i together \rightsquigarrow “strategies”.

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- ▶ Couveignes: This gives a “hard homogeneous space” (weirder name for a [one-way commutative group action](#)).
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\rightsquigarrow A priori **not an effective group action** when done either way!

The CSI-FiSh approach

...combines **exponent vectors** with **reduction** by exploiting the **relation lattice** of the chosen ideal classes. It works as follows:

The strategy to act by a given, arbitrarily long and ugly exponent vector $\underline{v} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ consists of the following steps:

1. **"Computing the class group"**: Find a basis of the *relation lattice* $\Lambda \subseteq \mathbb{Z}^d$ with respect to l_1, \dots, l_d .
[Classically subexponential-time, quantumly polynomial-time. Precomputation.]
2. **"Lattice reduction"**: Prepare a "good" basis of Λ using a lattice-reduction algorithm such as BKZ.
[Configurable complexity-quality tradeoff by varying the block size. Precomputation.]
3. **"Approximate CVP"**: Obtain a vector $\underline{w} \in \Lambda$ such that $\|\underline{v} - \underline{w}\|_1$ is "small", using the reduced basis.
[Polynomial-time, but the quality depends on the quality of step 2.]
4. **"Isogeny steps"**: Evaluate the action of the vector $\underline{v} - \underline{w} \in \mathbb{Z}^d$ as a sequence of l_i -steps.
[Complexity depends entirely on the output quality of step 3.]

<https://yx7.cc/blah/2023-04-14.html>

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What about **asymptotics**?

Tradeoff: Lattice part vs. isogeny part

- ▶ By increasing the **number** n of ideals \mathfrak{l}_i , we can **trade** off some “isogeny effort” for “lattice effort”.
- ↪ Sweet spot: Minimize total cost.

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CSI-FiSh really isn't polynomial-time

It is fairly well-known that CSIDH¹ in **its basic form** is merely a *restricted* effective group action $G \times X \rightarrow X$: There is a small number of group elements $l_1, \dots, l_d \in G$ whose action can be applied to arbitrary elements of X efficiently, but applying other elements (say, large products $l_1^{e_1} \dots l_d^{e_d}$ of the l_i) quickly becomes infeasible as the exponents grow.

The only known method to circumvent this issue consists of a folklore strategy first employed in practice by the signature scheme **CSI-FiSh**. The core of the technique is to rewrite any given group element as a *short* product combination of the l_i , whose action can then be computed in the usual way much more affordably. (Notice how this is philosophically similar to the role of the square-and-multiply algorithm in discrete-logarithm land!)

The main point of this post is to remark that this approach is **not asymptotically efficient**, even when a quantum computer can be used, contradicting a false belief that appears to be rather common among isogeny aficionados.

- ↪
- Classically: Evaluation $L_p[1/2]$. Attack $L_p[1]$.
 - Quantumly: Evaluation $L_p[1/3]$. Attack $L_p[1/2]$.

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Clapoti

Even more maritime isogenies??

Noun [[edit](#)]

clapotis *m* (*plural clapotis*)

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- ▶ Page–Robert: A [polynomial-time](#) algorithm to evaluate the isogeny group action on [arbitrary ideals](#).

Polynomial-time group action: Clapoti

Idea:

- ▶ Find two ideals $\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{c}$ of **coprime norms**, both **equivalent to \mathfrak{a}** .
Let $N := \text{norm}(\mathfrak{b}) + \text{norm}(\mathfrak{c})$.

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- ▶ Kani: This gives an N -isogeny

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi: E \times E &\longrightarrow E_{\mathfrak{a}} \times E_{\bar{\mathfrak{a}}}, \\ (P, Q) &\longmapsto (\phi_{\mathfrak{b}}(P) + \widehat{\psi}_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}}(Q), -\phi_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}}(P) + \widehat{\psi}_{\mathfrak{b}}(Q)). \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{\phi_{\mathfrak{b}}} & E_{\mathfrak{a}} \\ \phi_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}} \downarrow & & \downarrow \psi_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}} \\ E_{\bar{\mathfrak{a}}} & \xrightarrow{\psi_{\mathfrak{b}}} & E \end{array}$$

- ▶ Kani: This gives an N -isogeny

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi: E \times E &\longrightarrow E_{\mathfrak{a}} \times E_{\bar{\mathfrak{a}}}, \\ (P, Q) &\longmapsto (\phi_{\mathfrak{b}}(P) + \hat{\psi}_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}}(Q), -\phi_{\bar{\mathfrak{c}}}(P) + \hat{\psi}_{\mathfrak{b}}(Q)). \end{aligned}$$

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Polynomial-time group action: Clapoti

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- ⇒ The isogeny group action can now be computed **in polynomial time** even for “ugly” input ideals.
- ⇒ Isogenies yield true **effective group actions**, at last!

Plan for this lecture

- ▶ High-level **overview** for intuition. ✓
- ▶ Recap: Elliptic curves & **isogenies**. ✓
- ▶ The **CSIDH** non-interactive key exchange. ✓
- ▶ Classical and quantum **security** of CSIDH. ✓
- ▶ **Orientations** and the **SCALLOP** family. ✓
- ▶ *Unrestricted* **effective group actions**. ✓

Questions?

(Also feel free to email me: lorenz@yx7.cc)