

A Montgomery ladder for isogenies

Marc Houben

Inria Bordeaux

SQLparty

30 April 2025

CSIDH

Private

Public

Private

$$E_0$$

Alice

Bob

CSIDH

Private

Public

Private

$$E_0$$

$[a]$

Alice

$[b]$

Bob

CSIDH

Private

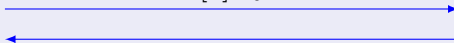
Public

Private

$$E_0$$

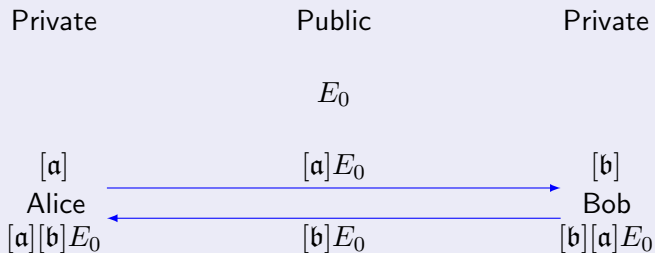
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$$[a]E_0$$

 $[b]$
Bob

$$[b]E_0$$

CSIDH



Orientations

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Let $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\sigma]$ be an imaginary quadratic order. An $\mathcal{O}$ -orientation is an embedding $\iota : \mathcal{O} \hookrightarrow \text{End}(E)$.

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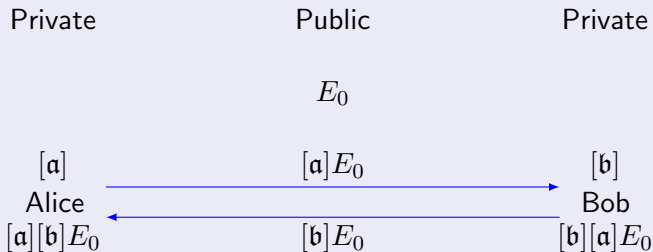
$$\ker \varphi_{\mathfrak{a}} = E[\mathfrak{a}] = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \mathfrak{a}} \ker \iota(\alpha).$$

Theorem

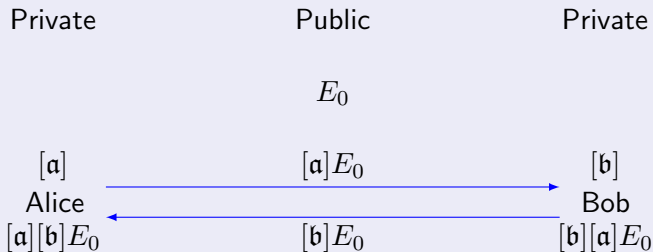
If the $\mathcal{O}$ -orientation is primitive, this gives a free action

$$\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}) \curvearrowright \{(E, \iota)\} / \cong.$$

CSIDH



Key exchange from a class group action



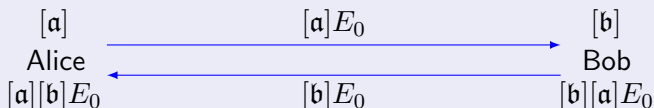
Key exchange from a class group action

Private

Public

Private

$$E_0$$



- (i) CRS
- (ii) OSIDH
- (iii) SCALLOP & friends

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As $\mathcal{O}$ -ideals

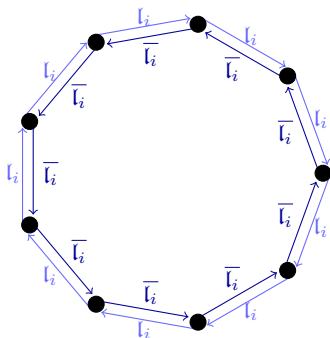
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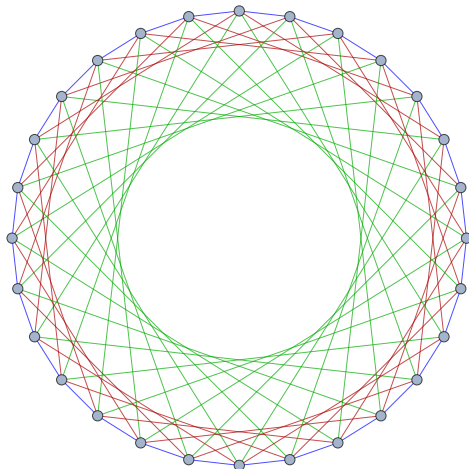
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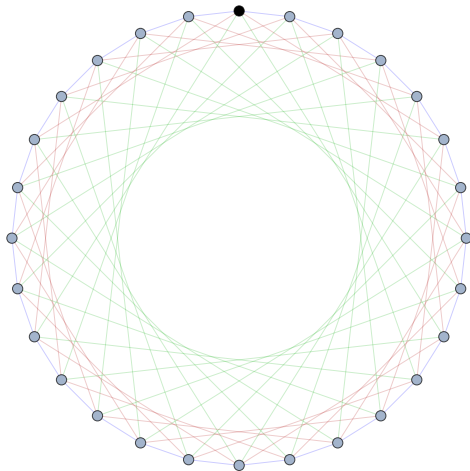
(Connected component of) the supersingular ℓ -isogeny graph over $\mathbb{F}_p$.

CSIDH

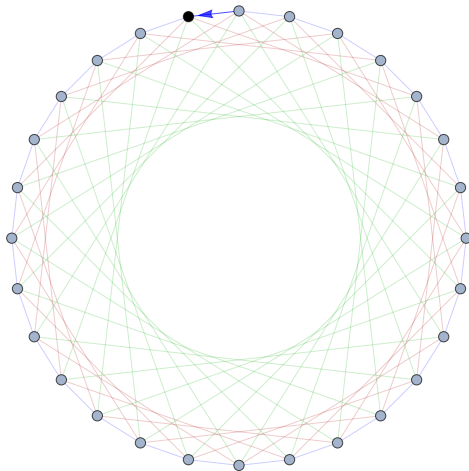


(Connected component of) a union of supersingular 3-, 5-, and 7-isogeny graphs over $\mathbb{F}_p$.

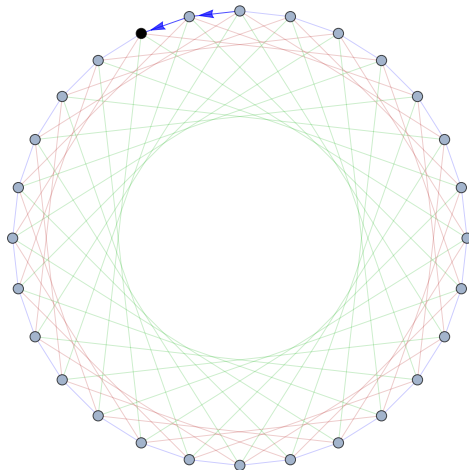
CSIDH



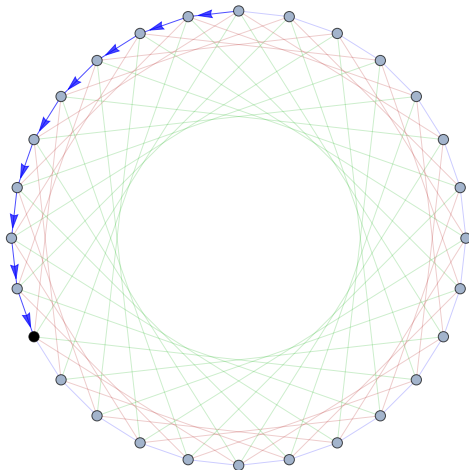
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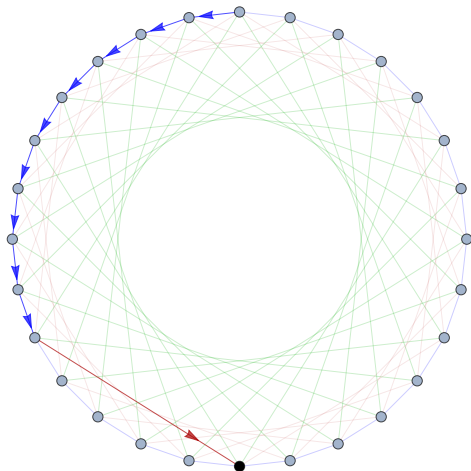
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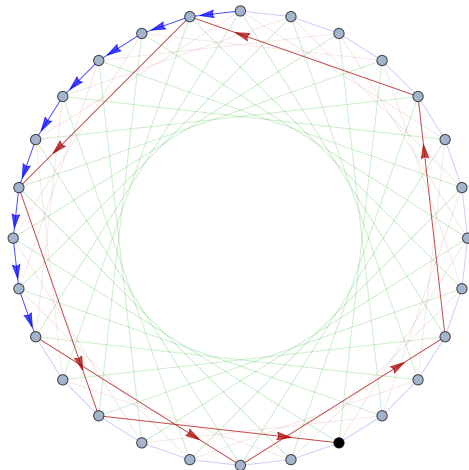
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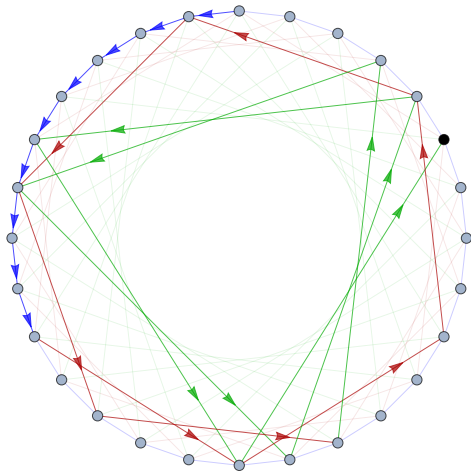
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CSIDH-512

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Computing the ℓ_i -isogenies

As $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\pi]$ -ideals

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- (ii) Still need to sample points on E_A and E_B .

Volcanoes

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Volcanoes

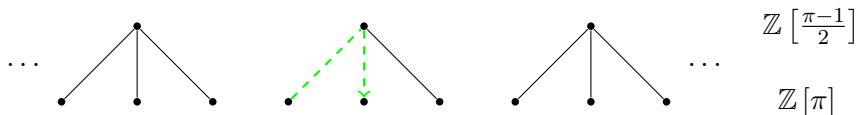
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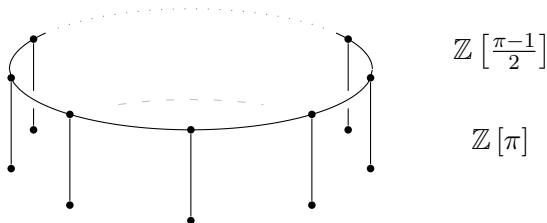
The supersingular $\mathbb{F}_p$ -rational 2-isogeny graph if $p \equiv 3 \pmod{8}$.

Moving to the surface

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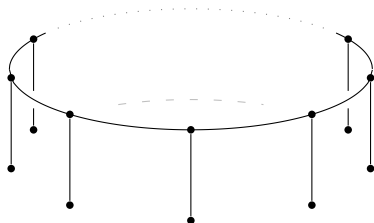


The supersingular $\mathbb{F}_p$ -rational 2-isogeny graph if $p \equiv 7 \pmod{8}$.

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Assume $p = 8 \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \ell_i - 1$.

$$\left(\frac{\pi-1}{2}\right) = \left(2, \frac{\pi-1}{2}\right) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^n \left(\ell_i, \frac{\pi-1}{2}\right)$$



$$\mathbb{Z} \left[\frac{\pi-1}{2} \right]$$

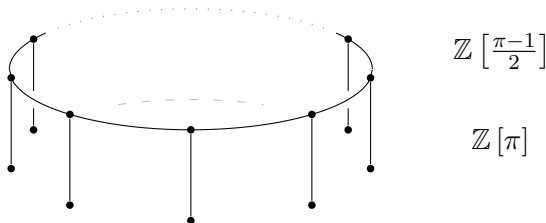
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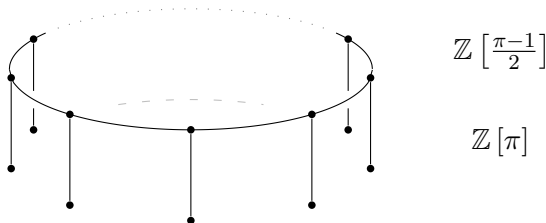


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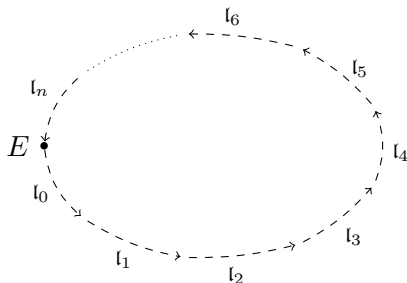
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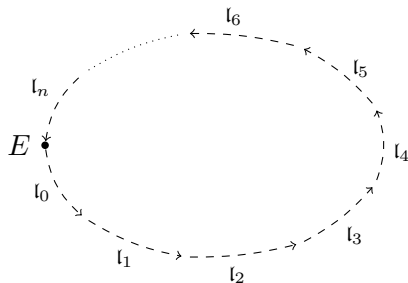
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Acting by the trivial ideal class

$$\left(\frac{\pi-1}{2}\right) = \prod_{i=0}^n \mathfrak{l}_i.$$

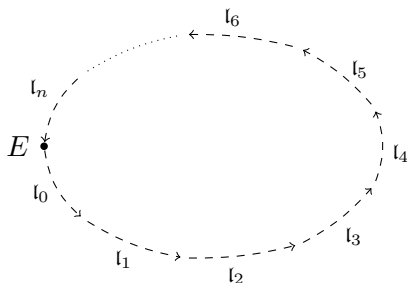


The action by the ideal class $(1, \dots, 1)$.



Acting by the ideal class $(1, \dots, 1)$.

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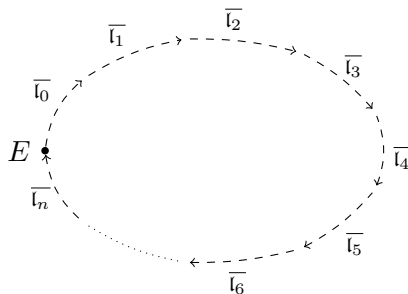


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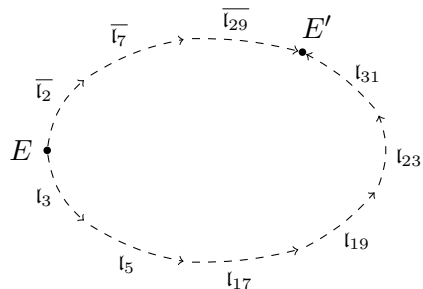


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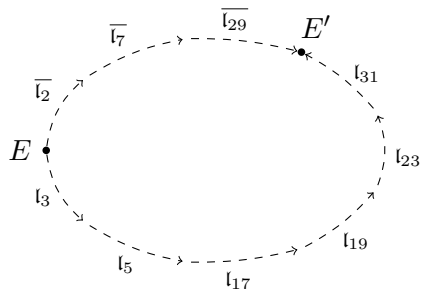
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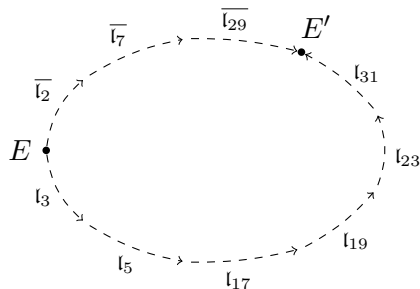


Acting by the ideal class $(0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1) \equiv (-1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0)$.



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$$\varphi^+ : E \rightarrow E / \langle [2 \cdot 7 \cdot 29]P \rangle \cong E', \quad \text{where} \quad E \left[\frac{\pi - 1}{2} \right] = \langle P \rangle,$$

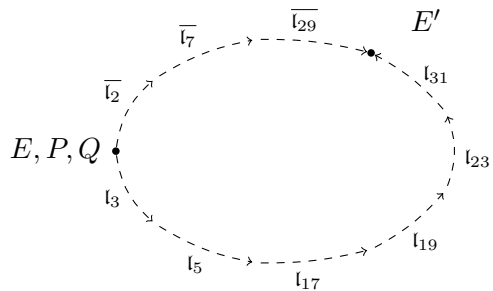


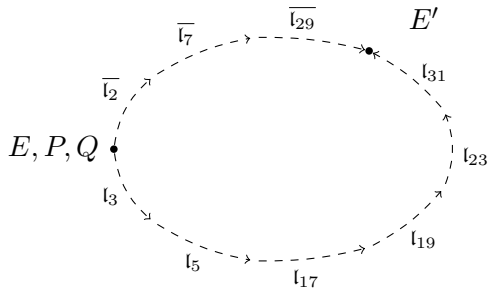
Acting by the ideal class $(0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1) \equiv (-1, 0, 0, -1, 0, 0, 0, -1, 0)$.

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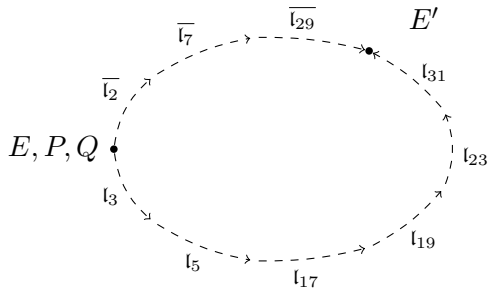
and

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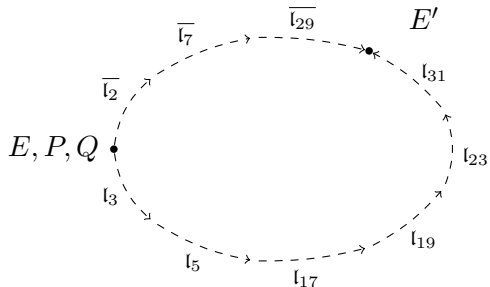


MagicTM



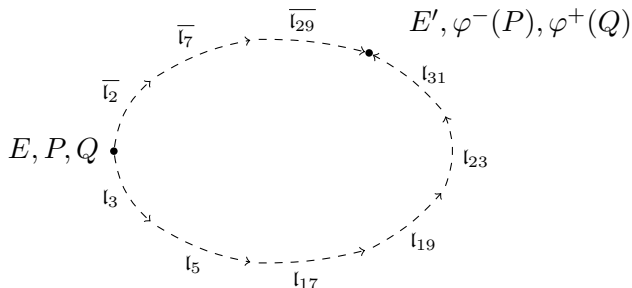
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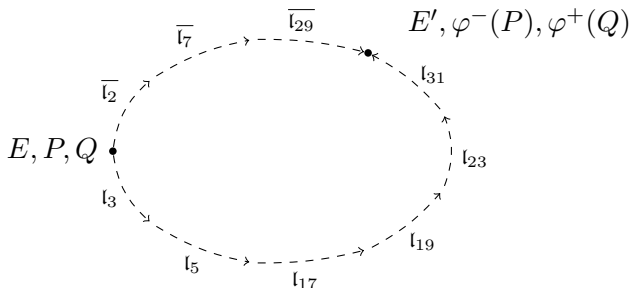
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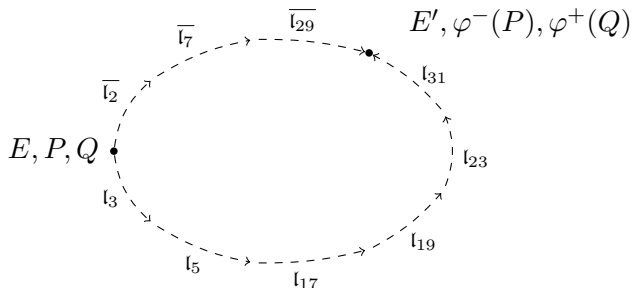
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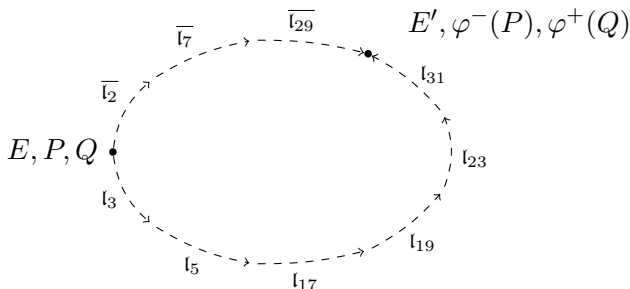
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Cost

One l_i -isogeny for every i (i.e. one evaluation of $\frac{\pi-1}{2}$).



“Montgomery ladder” for binary ideal classes

$R_0 \leftarrow (E, P, Q), R_1 \leftarrow (E, Q, P);$

for $i = 0 \dots n$ **do**

$\text{cswap}(R_0, R_1, \neg \text{sk}[i]);$

$R_0 \leftarrow \text{Isogeny}(R_0, \ell_i);$

$\triangleright$ Compute ℓ_i -isogeny from $R_0[1]$; push $R_0[1], R_0[2]$.

$R_1 \leftarrow \text{Multiply}(R_1, \ell_i);$

$\triangleright$ Multiply $R_1[1]$ by ℓ_i .

end for;

$R_0[1] \leftarrow R_1[2];$

return $R_0;$

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$$\left(\frac{\pi-1}{2}\right) = \prod \left(\ell_i, \frac{\pi-1}{2}\right) = \prod \mathfrak{l}_i.$$

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Quantum security

Depends on $\#\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O}) \approx 0.46 |\text{Disc}(\mathcal{O})|^{1/2}$.

CSIDH parameter estimates

Recent estimates of p for various NIST levels¹, based on SQALE².

Prime bits	f	n	Excluded	Included	Key Space	NIST level
p2048	2^{64}	226	{1361}	—	2^{221}	1 (aggressive)
p4096	2^{1728}	262	{347}	{1699}	2^{256}	1 (conservative)
p5120	2^{2944}	244	{227}	{1601}	2^{234}	2 (aggressive)
p6144	2^{3776}	262	{283}	{1693, 1697, 1741}	2^{256}	2 (conservative)
p8192	2^{4992}	338	{401}	{2287, 2377}	2^{332}	3 (aggressive)
p9216	2^{5440}	389	{179}	{2689, 2719}	2^{384}	3 (conservative)

¹Campos, F., Chávez-Saab, J., Chi-Domínguez, J.J., Meyer, M., Reijnders, K., Rodríguez-Henríquez, F., Schwabe, P., Wiggers, T.: Optimizations and practicality of high-security CSIDH. CiC (2024).

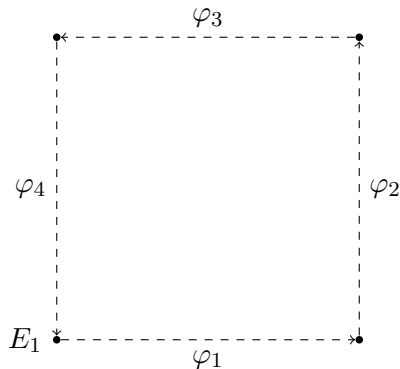
²Chávez-Saab, J., Chi-Domínguez, J.J., Jaques, S., Rodríguez-Henríquez, F.: The SQALE of CSIDH: sublinear Vélu quantum-resistant isogeny action with low exponents. Journal of Cryptographic Engineering (2022).

Larger orientations

$$p + 1 = 4 \prod \ell_i, \quad (\sigma) = \prod (\ell_i, \sigma)^4 = \prod \mathfrak{t}_i^4.$$

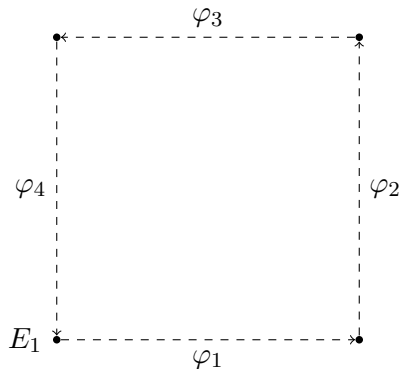
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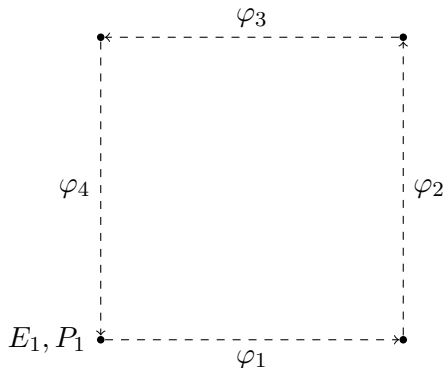
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$$\ker \varphi_1 = E_1 [\prod \mathfrak{l}_i] \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{p^2}.$$

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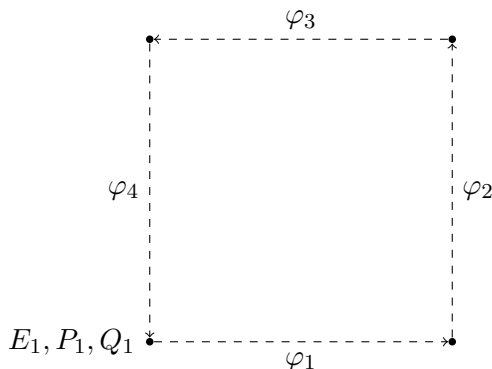
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$$\ker \varphi_1 = \langle P_1 \rangle \leftrightarrow \prod \mathfrak{l}_i = (1, \dots, 1),$$

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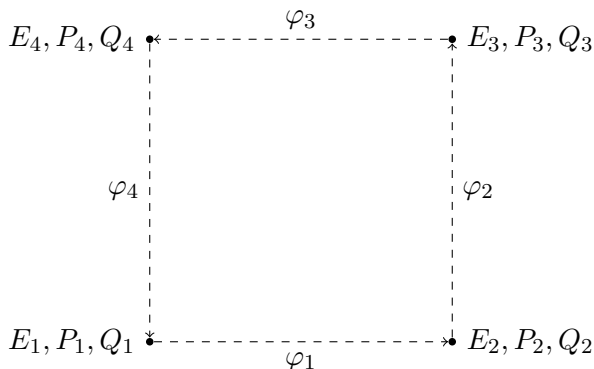
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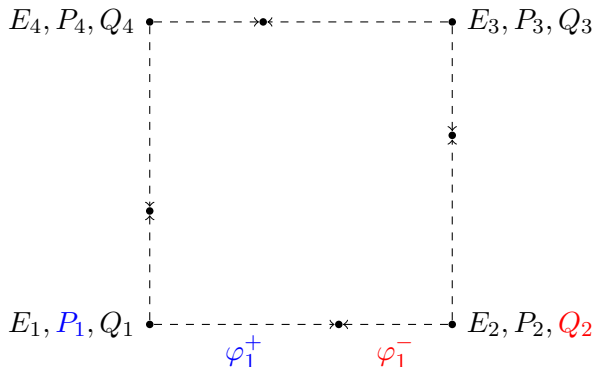
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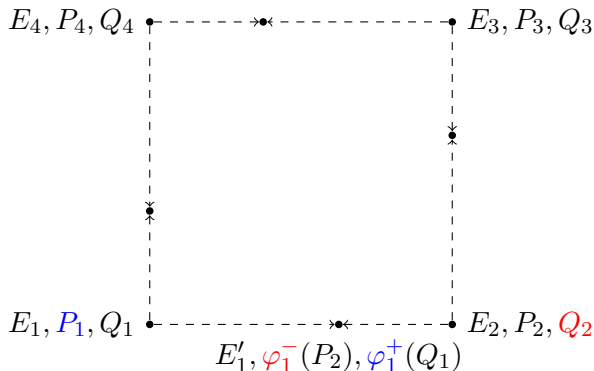
Acting by a binary ideal class



Example

$$\varphi_1^+ \leftrightarrow (1, 0, 1, 1, 0, \dots), \quad \varphi_1^- \leftrightarrow (0, -1, 0, 0, -1, \dots).$$

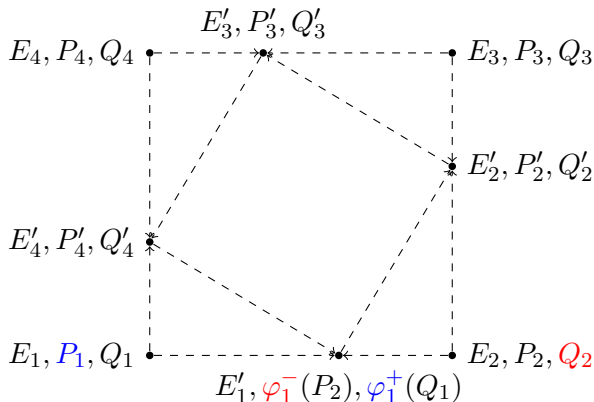
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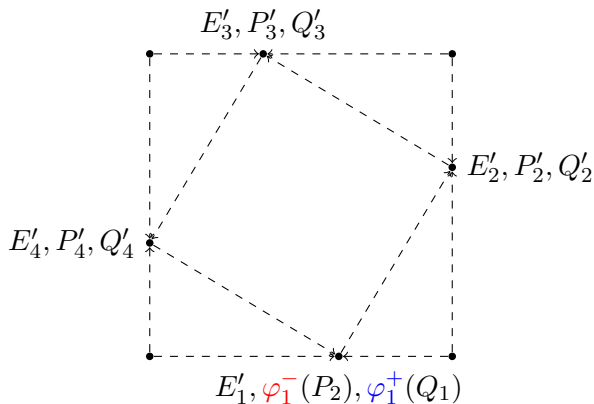
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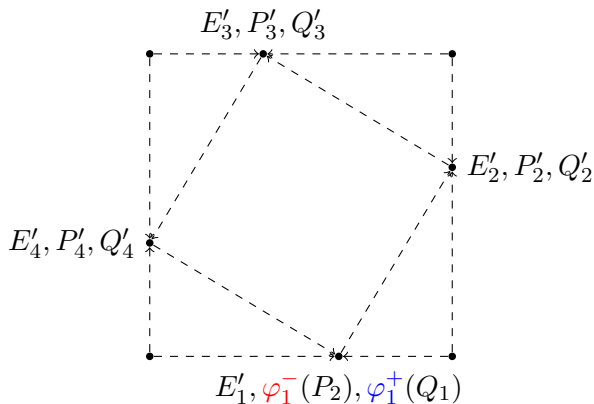
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Four ℓ_i -isogenies for every i , i.e. one evaluation of $\sigma = \prod \mathfrak{l}_i^4$.

Numbers

Let

$$p = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 7 \cdot 13 \cdot 23 \cdot \underbrace{(3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot 293)}_{61 \text{ consecutive primes}} - 1 \cong 2^{413}.$$

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Then $E : y^2 = x^3 + x$ can be oriented by $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\sigma]$, where

$$N(\sigma) = \prod_i \ell_i^{5e_i}, \quad \text{tr}(\sigma) = 1130299,$$

such that

$$\text{Disc}(\sigma) \cong 2^{2058} \text{ is prime.}$$

More numbers

Let

$$p = 4 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \cdot 11 \cdot 13 \cdot 17 \cdot \underbrace{(3 \cdot 5 \cdot \dots \cdot 337)}_{67 \text{ consecutive primes}} - 1 \cong 2^{457}.$$

Then $E : y^2 = x^3 + x$ can be oriented by $\mathcal{O} = \mathbb{Z}[\sigma]$, where

$$N(\sigma) = \prod_i \ell_i^{9e_i}, \quad \text{tr}(\sigma) = 3672029,$$

such that

$$\text{Disc}(\sigma) \cong 2^{4100} \text{ is prime.}$$

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- (iii) We can increase $\log(|\text{Disc}(\mathcal{O})|)$ by a factor r for a cost factor r .
- (iv) In particular, there exist families of class group action-based NIKES more efficient than CSIDH (at a given NIST security level).

Thank you!

Algorithm 1 Evaluating a class group action using two kernel points

Input: An elliptic curve E/k , generators $P \in E[\sigma], Q \in E[\hat{\sigma}]$, a vector of integers $(s_1, \dots, s_n) \in [0, e_i]^n$.

Output: The curve $E' := [\prod_i \ell_i^{s_i}] * E$, generators $P' \in E'[\sigma], Q' \in E'[\hat{\sigma}]$.

$(E^+, P^+, Q') \leftarrow (E, P, Q);$ $\triangleright P^+ \in E^+[\sigma]$ and $Q' \in E^+[\hat{\sigma}]$.

$(E^-, P^-, P') \leftarrow (E, Q, P);$ $\triangleright P^- \in E^-[\hat{\sigma}]$ and $P' \in E^-[\sigma]$.

$m \leftarrow \prod_i \ell_i^{e_i};$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$ **do**

for $j = 1, \dots, e_i$ **do**

if $j \leq s_i$ **then**

$m \leftarrow m/\ell_i; K \leftarrow [m]P^+;$ $\triangleright K$ has order ℓ_i .

$(E^+, P^+, Q') \leftarrow \text{EVALLEISOGENY}(E^+, K, P^+, Q');$ $\triangleright$ “Isogeny”

$P^- \leftarrow [\ell_i]P^-;$ $\triangleright$ “Multiply”

else $\triangleright$ Same as above, but with the roles of E^+ and E^- swapped.

$m \leftarrow m/\ell_i; K \leftarrow [m]P^-;$

$(E^-, P^-, P') \leftarrow \text{EVALLEISOGENY}(E^-, K, P^-, P');$

$P^+ \leftarrow [\ell_i]P^+;$

end if

end for

end for

assert $E^+ = E^-;$

return $(E^+, P', Q');$
