

# Hyper-and-elliptic-curve cryptography

(which is not the same as:  
hyperelliptic-curve cryptography  
and elliptic-curve cryptography)

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But first some context. . .

## ECC security vs. ECDL security

Crypto view of ECDL problem:

Fix finite  $k$ ,  $E/k$ ,  $P \in E(k)$ .

**Secret key:** random  $a \in \mathbf{Z}/\#\mathbf{Z}P$ .

**Public key:**  $aP$ .

The ECDL problem: compute secret key from public key.

ECDL solution  $\Rightarrow$  ECC attack.

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ECC attack  $\Rightarrow$  ECDL solution?

Not necessarily!

Let's look at some examples.

**Example 1: Kummer-line ECDH**  
(1985 Miller). Bob has secret  $b$ ;  
receives  $X(A)$  from Alice;  
uses easy formulas to compute  
 $X(bA)$ ; encrypts using  $X(bA)$ .

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small  $\#Z_A$ ; learn  $b \bmod \#Z_A$ .

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Typically Bob checks  $X(A) \in k$   
but doesn't check  $A \in E(k)$ .

Formulas also work for  $A \in E'(k)$   
for appropriate twist  $E'$  of  $E$ .

Typically  $\#E(k)$  is large prime  
but  $\#E'(k)$  has small factors.

Example 2: Censor scans network, terminates users who send many elements of  $X(E(k))$ .

2004 Möller: Fix twist-secure  $E$ . Send  $X(aP)$  or  $X(a'P')$ .

Annoying: e.g., consider ECDH.

Same basic issue arises in random-number generation (see, e.g., 2006 Gjøsteen and 2006 Schoenmakers–Sidorenko), password-authenticated key exchange (e.g., 2001 Boyd–Montague–Nguyen, broken 2013), ID-based encryption, etc.

2013 Bernstein–Hamburg–  
Krasnova–Lange

“Elligator: Elliptic-curve points  
indistinguishable from  
uniform random strings”:

Replace  $X$  with fast bijection  
between large  $S \subseteq E(k)$  and,  
e.g., interval  $\{0, 1, \dots, 2^b - 1\}$ .

Alice keeps generating  $a$   
until  $aP \in S$ .

Two examples given in paper,  
both with  $\#S \approx 0.5\#E(k)$   
for reasonable choices of  $k$ .



“Elligator 1”,

reinterpreting and simplifying

2013 Fouque–Joux–Tibouchi:

Fix prime power  $q \in 3 + 4\mathbf{Z}$ ;

$s \in \mathbf{F}_q^*$  with

$$(s^2 - 2)(s^2 + 2) \neq 0;$$

$$c = 2/s^2; \quad r = c + 1/c;$$

$$d = -(c + 1)^2 / (c - 1)^2.$$

Define  $E : x^2 + y^2 = 1 + dx^2y^2$ .

This is a complete Edwards curve.

For  $\phi : \mathbf{F}_q \rightarrow E(\mathbf{F}_q)$  defined

on next slide: the only preimages

of  $\phi(t)$  under  $\phi$  are  $\{t, -t\}$ .

$$\phi(\pm 1) = (0, 1).$$

Otherwise  $\phi(t) = (x, y)$  where

$$u = (1 - t)/(1 + t),$$

$$v = u^5 + (r^2 - 2)u^3 + u,$$

$$X = \chi(v)u,$$

$$Y =$$

$$(\chi(v)v)^{(q+1)/4} \chi(v) \chi(u^2 + 1/c^2),$$

$$x = (c - 1)sX(1 + X)/Y,$$

$$y = \frac{rX - (1 + X)^2}{rX + (1 + X)^2}.$$

“Elligator 2”, 2013 Bernstein–  
Hamburg–Krasnova–Lange  
(restricted to the easiest case):

Fix prime power  $q \in 1 + 4\mathbf{Z}$ ;

non-square  $u \in \mathbf{F}_q$ ;

$A, B \in \mathbf{F}_q^*$  with non-square

$A^2 - 4B$ ;  $\sqrt{\cdot} : \mathbf{F}_q^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_q$

with  $\sqrt{a^2} \in \{a, -a\}$ .

Define  $E : y^2 = x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx$ .

For  $\psi : \mathbf{F}_q \rightarrow E(\mathbf{F}_q)$  defined

on next slide: the only preimages

of  $\psi(t)$  under  $\psi$  are  $\{t, -t\}$ .

$$\psi(0) = (0, 0).$$

Otherwise  $\psi(t) = (x, y)$  where

$$v = -A/(1 + ut^2),$$

$$\epsilon = \chi(v^3 + Av^2 + Bv),$$

$$x = \epsilon v - (1 - \epsilon)A/2,$$

$$y = -\epsilon\sqrt{x^3 + Ax^2 + Bx}.$$

Proofs, inverse maps, etc.:

[elligator.cr.jp.to](http://elligator.cr.jp.to)

## Asymptotic ECDL security

The original ECC advertising:  
Index calculus breaks RSA etc.  
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Replace XL with Coppersmith  
to generalize  $\text{ECC}_2$  to ECC?



## Concrete ECDL security

Typical for real-world ECC:

the “NIST P-256” curve  $E$  :

$y^2 = x^3 - 3x + a_6$  over  $\mathbf{F}_q$  where

$$q = 2^{256} - 2^{224} + 2^{192} + 2^{96} - 1,$$

$$a_6 = 410583637251521421293261 \\ 297800472684091144410159937 \\ 25554835256314039467401291.$$

$E(\mathbf{F}_q)$  has prime order  $\ell$ .

“NIST generator” :  $P = ($

4843956129390645175905258525

2797914202762949526041747995

844080717082404635286, ... 9).

Textbook ECDL cost analysis:

$\approx \sqrt{\pi \ell / 2}$  group operations to  
compute DL in order- $\ell$  group.

Negation map gains factor

$\approx \sqrt{2}$  for elliptic curves.

So  $\approx 2^{128}$  group operations

to compute P-256 ECDL.

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But is it the best algorithm that *exists*?

Standard definition of “best” :  
minimize “time” (e.g., minimize  
total “time” over all inputs).

Many researchers have  
tried and failed to find  
better ECDL algorithms.

**Standard conjecture:**

For each  $p \in [0, 1]$ ,  
each P-256 ECDL algorithm  
with success probability  $\geq p$   
takes “time”  $\geq 2^{128} p^{1/2}$ .

## Interlude regarding “time”

How much “time” does the following algorithm take?

```
def pidigit(n0,n1,n2):
    if n0 == 0:
        if n1 == 0:
            if n2 == 0: return 3
            return 1
        if n2 == 0: return 4
        return 1
    if n1 == 0:
        if n2 == 0: return 5
        return 9
    if n2 == 0: return 2
    return 6
```

Students in algorithm courses  
learn to count executed “steps” .  
Skipped branches take 0 “steps” .  
This algorithm uses 4 “steps” .

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Generalization: There exists an algorithm that, given  $n < 2^k$ , prints the  $n$ th digit of  $\pi$  using  $k + 1$  “steps”.



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Variant: There exists a 258-“step” P-256 discrete-log attack (with 100% success probability).

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Variant: There exists a 258-“step” P-256 discrete-log attack (with 100% success probability). If “time” means “steps” then the standard conjectures are wrong.

1994 Bellare–Kilian–Rogaway:

*“We say that*

*A is a  $(t, q)$ -adversary if*

*A runs in at most  $t$  steps and  
makes at most  $q$  queries to  $\mathcal{O}$ .”*

1994 Bellare–Kilian–Rogaway:

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Oops: table-lookup attack  
has very small  $t$ .

Paper conjectured “useful” DES  
security bounds. Any reasonable  
interpretation of conjecture was  
false, given paper’s definition.

Theorems in paper were vacuous.

2000 Bellare–Kilian–Rogaway:  
*“We fix some particular Random Access Machine (RAM) as a model of computation. . . . A’s running time [means] A’s actual execution time plus the length of A’s description . . . This convention eliminates pathologies caused [by] arbitrarily large lookup tables . . . .”*

2012 Bernstein–Lange:

There are more pathologies!

Assuming plausible heuristics,  
overwhelmingly verified by  
computer experiment:

There exists a P-256 ECDL  
algorithm that takes “time”  $\approx 2^{85}$   
and has success probability  $\approx 1$ .

“Time” includes algorithm length.

Inescapable conclusion: **The  
standard conjecture is false.**

Our recommendations to fix the flawed security definitions, conjectures, proofs:

1. Switch from “time” to circuit  $AT$ .

(Related, online soon:  
Improved  $AT$  exponents for  
*batch* NFS.)

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1. Switch from “time” to circuit  $AT$ .

(Related, online soon: Improved  $AT$  exponents for *batch* NFS.)

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More details and attacks:

[cr.yp.to/nonuniform.html](http://cr.yp.to/nonuniform.html)

## DH speed records

Sandy Bridge cycles for high-security constant-time  $a$ ,  $P \mapsto aP$  (“?” if not SUPERCOP-verified):

2011 Bernstein–Duif–Lange–Schwabe–Yang:	194120
2012 Hamburg:	153000?
2012 Longa–Sica:	137000?
2013 Bos–Costello–Hisil–Lauter:	122728
2013 Oliveira–López–Aranha–Rodríguez-Henríquez:	114800?
2013 Faz-Hernández–Longa–Sánchez:	96000?
2014 Bernstein–Chuengsatiansup–Lange–Schwabe:	91460

Critical for 122728, 91460:

1986 Chudnovsky–Chudnovsky:  
traditional Kummer surface  
allows fast scalar mult.

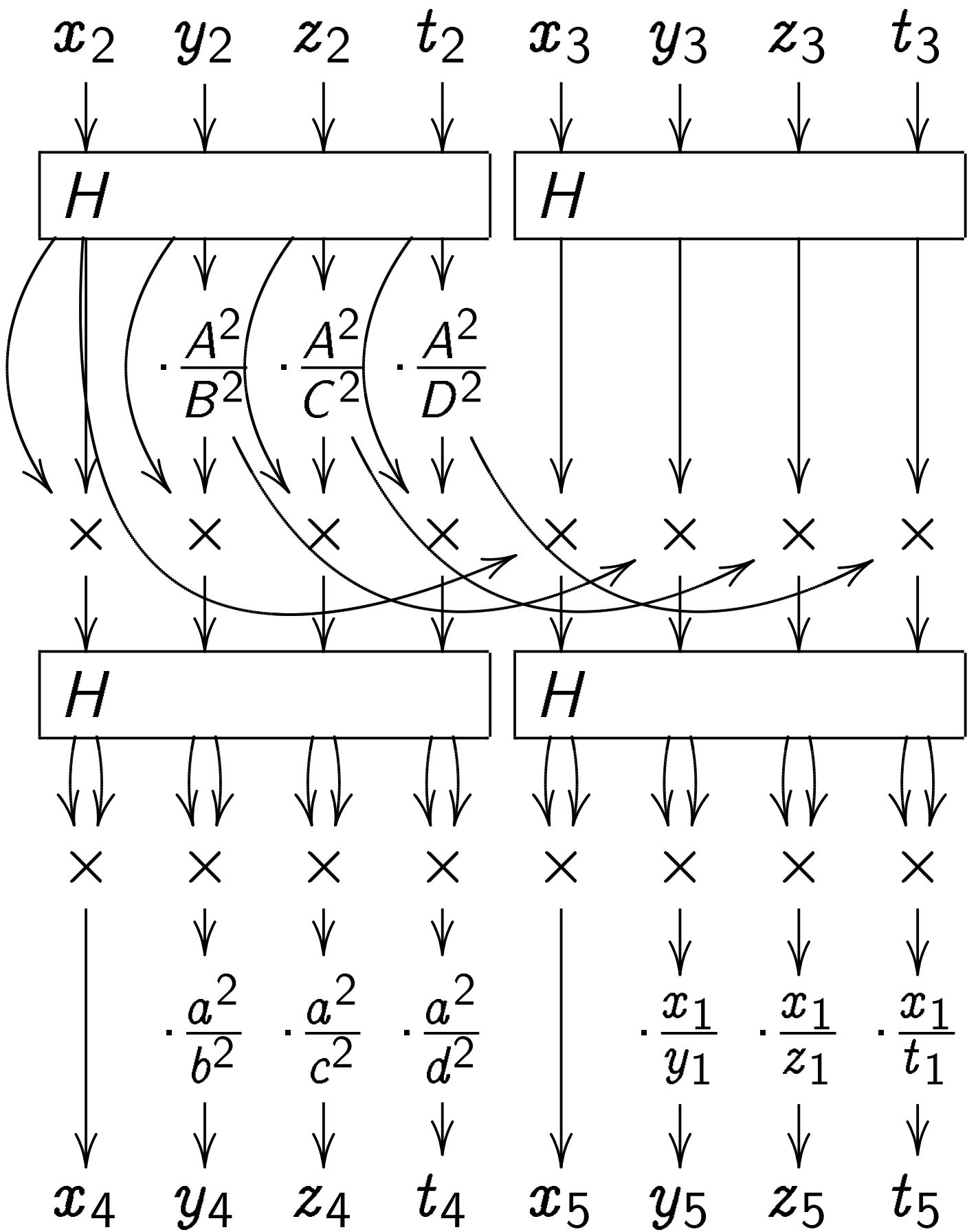
**14M** for  $X(P) \mapsto X(2P)$ .

2006 Gaudry: even faster.

**25M** for  $X(P), X(Q), X(Q - P)$   
 $\mapsto X(2P), X(Q + P)$ , including  
**6M** by surface coefficients.

2012 Gaudry–Schost:

1000000-CPU-hour computation  
found secure small-coefficient  
surface over  $\mathbf{F}_{2^{127}-1}$ .



# Hyper-and-elliptic-curve crypto

Typical example: Define  $H$  :

$$y^2 = (z - 1)(z + 1)(z + 2)$$

$$(z - 1/2)(z + 3/2)(z - 2/3)$$

over  $\mathbf{F}_p$  with  $p = 2^{127} - 309$ ;

$J = \text{Jac } H$ ; traditional Kummer

surface  $K$ ; traditional  $X : J \rightarrow K$ .

Small  $K$  coeffs (20 : 1 : 20 : 40).

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Warning: There are errors in the

Rosenhain/Mumford/Kummer

formulas in 2007 Gaudry, 2010

Cosset, 2013 Bos–Costello–

Hisil–Lauter. We have simpler,

computer-verified formulas.

Define  $\mathbf{F}_{p^2} = \mathbf{F}_p[i]/(i^2 + 1)$ ;

$$r = (7 + 4i)^2 = 33 + 56i;$$

$$s = 159 + 56i; \omega = \sqrt{-384};$$

$$C : y^2 = rx^6 + sx^4 + \bar{s}x^2 + \bar{r}.$$

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$$(z, y) \mapsto \left( \frac{1 + iz}{1 - iz}, \frac{\omega y}{(1 - iz)^3} \right)$$

takes  $H$  over  $\mathbf{F}_{p^2}$  to  $C$ .

$J$  is isogenous to

Weil restriction  $W$  of  $E$ , so

computing  $\#J(\mathbf{F}_p)$  is fast.

Here  $\#J(\mathbf{F}_p) = 16 \cdot \text{prime}$ ;

also reasonably twist-secure.

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What's new here:

1. Small Kummer coefficients.

Requires lifting Scholten to  $\mathbf{Q}$ .

2. Explicit formulas for isogenies

$\iota : W \rightarrow J$  and  $\iota' : J \rightarrow W$

with  $\iota \circ \iota' = 2$ .

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We took random points

in  $H(\mathbf{F}_p) \times H(\mathbf{F}_p)$ ;

applied  $H(\mathbf{F}_p) \rightarrow C(\mathbf{F}_{p^2})$

$\rightarrow E(\mathbf{F}_{p^2}) = W(\mathbf{F}_p)$ ;

interpolated formulas for  $\iota'$ .

Similarly interpolated formulas

for  $\iota$ ; verified composition.

Easy computer calculation.

“Wasting brain power

is bad for the environment.”

3. Using isogenies to dynamically move computations between  $E(\mathbf{F}_{p^2})$  and  $J(\mathbf{F}_p)$ .

e.g. Generate keys using fast formulas for  $E$ .

Compute shared secrets using fast formulas for  $K$ .

For more information:  
see our talk at ANTS!

Paper coming soon.