

# LECTURE 2: Reductions

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between hard problems in isogeny-based cryptography

**PROBLEM 1 (l-Isogeny Path):** Given primes  $l \neq p$  and  $E_1, E_2$  sup. sing. ell. curves over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ , find a path from  $E_1$  to  $E_2$  in  $G(p, l)$ .

DEFNS:  $R =$  domain with field of fractions  $F$

$B =$  fin dim'l  $F$ -algebra

- $M \subseteq B$  is an  $R$ -lattice if  $M$  is fin. gen. as an  $R$ -module and  $MF = B$ .
- An  $R$ -order  $O \subseteq B$  is an  $R$ -lattice that is also a subring of  $B$ .
- An order  $O \subseteq B$  is maximal if it is not properly contained in another order.
- $\text{char } F \neq 2$  An  $R$ -algebra  $B$  is a quaternion algebra if there is an  $F$ -basis  $1, i, j, ij$  for  $B$  s.t.  $i^2 = a, j^2 = b, ji = -ij$  for some  $a, b \in F^\times$ .

Such a  $B$

ramifies at a prime  $q$  (resp  $\infty$ )  
if  $B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_q$  (resp.  $B \otimes \mathbb{R}$ ) is a  
division algebra.

Otherwise,  $B$  is split at  $q$  (resp  $\infty$ )

In this case  $B \otimes \mathbb{Q}_q \cong M_2(\mathbb{Q}_q)$   
(resp.  $B \otimes \mathbb{R} \cong M_2(\mathbb{R})$ ).

$E$  supersing. ell curve in char  $p$ .

$\text{End}(E)$  is a maximal order in  $B_{p,\infty}$

$B_{p,\infty}$ ;  $B_{p,\infty} =$  unique quat. alg.  
over  $\mathbb{Q}$  ramified exactly  
at  $p$  and  $\infty$ .

Deuring correspondence:

$\{ \text{maximal orders in } B_{p,\infty} \} / \sim \leftrightarrow \{ j \in \mathbb{F}_p \setminus \mathbb{Z} : j = j(E) \}$   
For supersingular  
 $E \in \mathcal{E} / \text{Gal}(\mathbb{F}_{p^2} / \mathbb{F}_p)$

## PROBLEM 2 (EndRing)

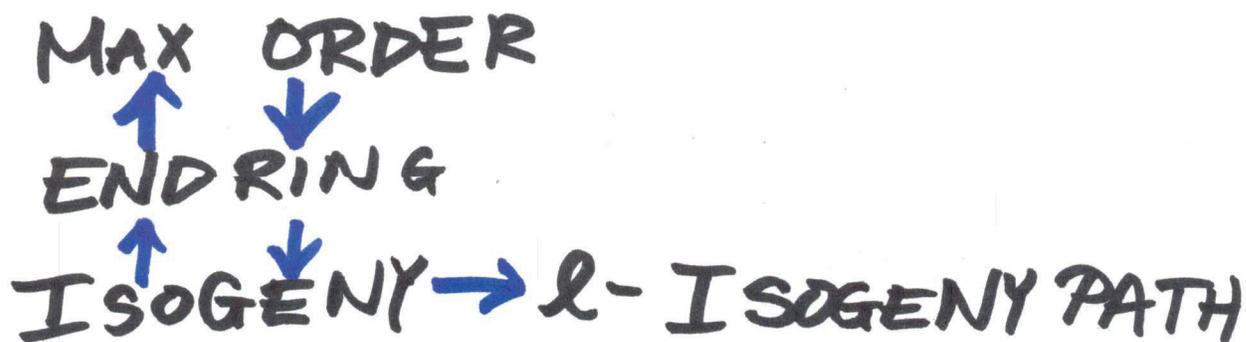
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Given sup. sing.  $E/\mathbb{F}_p^2$ , find four endomorph. of  $E$ , given in an eff. repres., that generate  $\text{End}(E)$ .

PROBLEM 3 (MAX ORDER) Given  $E$  as before, find an order in  $\mathbb{B}_{p, \infty}$  isomorphic to  $\text{End}(E)$ .

PROBLEM 4 (ISOGENY) Given  $E_1, E_2$  sup. sing over  $\mathbb{F}_p^2$ , find an isogeny from  $E_1$  to  $E_2$ .

## REDUCTIONS BETWEEN PROBLEMS



We'll give a reduction from  
MAX ORDER to  $l$ -ISOGENY PATH

Assume: we have an oracle  
for  $l$ -ISOGENY PATH.

MAX ORDER  $\longrightarrow$   $l$ -ISOGENY PATH

Input: supersing.  $E/\mathbb{F}_p^2$

Output:  $\mathcal{O} \simeq \text{End}(E)$ , given to  
access to  $l$ -ISOGENY PATH oracle

starting point: generate second curve

$\tilde{E}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}} \simeq \text{End}(\tilde{E})$  which is known.

Idea for reduction:

Given  $E$ , generate  $\tilde{E}$ ,  $\tilde{\mathcal{O}}$  and  
run Oracle for  $l$ -ISOGENY PATH  
on input  $(\tilde{E}, E)$ . Will get an  
eff. repres. of an  $l$ -power isogeny

from  $\tilde{E}$  to  $E$ , say 2-5  
given as  $\varphi: \tilde{E} \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} E_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} \dots \rightarrow E_e = E$

$$\varphi = \varphi_e \circ \dots \circ \varphi_1 \quad \deg \varphi_i = l$$

Right and left orders, kernel ideals

Let  $I \subseteq B_{p, \infty}$  be a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -lattice

right order of  $I =$

$$\mathcal{O}_R(I) := \{x \in B_{p, \infty} : Ix \subseteq I\}$$

Similarly, define  $\mathcal{O}_L(I)$ .

When  $I$  is a left ideal in a maximal order  $\mathcal{O}$  in  $B_{p, \infty}$ , then

$\mathcal{O}_R(I)$  is a maximal order  $\mathcal{O}'$ ,

and  $\mathcal{O}_L(I) = \mathcal{O}$ .

We say that  $I$  connects  $\mathcal{O}$  and  $\mathcal{O}'$ .

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Translating isogenies into  
ideals and ideals into isogenies.

Given an isogeny  $\varphi: E \rightarrow E'$   
of degree  $n$ , can define a left  
 $\text{End}(E)$ -ideal  $I_\varphi := \text{Hom}(E', E) \cdot \varphi$

Then  $\mathcal{O}_L(I_\varphi) \cong \text{End}(E)$   
and  $\mathcal{O}_R(I_\varphi) \cong \text{End}(E')$ .

So  $I_\varphi$  connects  $E$  and  $E'$ .

Conversely, given left ideal  $I$   
of  $\text{End}(E)$ , there is a subscheme  
 $E[I]$  of  $E$  and an isogeny

$$\varphi_I: E \rightarrow E/E[I]$$

If  $\text{Nrd}(I)$  is coprime to  $p$ , then

$$E[I] = \{ P \in \overline{\mathbb{F}_p} : \alpha(P) = 0 \forall \alpha \in I \}$$

The two constructions are  
mutual inverses.

$I_\varphi$  is the kernel ideal of  $\varphi$ . <sup>2-7</sup>

Naive approach for the reduction

Max Order  $\rightarrow$   $l$ -ISOGENY PATH

given  $E/\mathbb{F}_p$ , construct  $\hat{E}$  and

$\hat{\mathcal{O}}$ .

- call oracle for  $l$ -ISOGENY PATH on  $(\hat{E}, \hat{E})$  to get

$$\varphi = \varphi_2 \circ \dots \circ \varphi_1 : \hat{E} \rightarrow E \quad \varphi_i \text{ has deg } l$$

- Compute the kernel ideal  $I_\varphi$  for  $\varphi$ .

- Compute  $\mathcal{O}_R(I_\varphi)$  to obtain a max. order  $\mathcal{O} \cong \text{END}(E)$ .

Computing kernel ideal is poly in  $\max(l_i^{e_i})$  where  
 $\text{Norm}(I_\varphi) = \prod l_i^{e_i}$