

# Improved Digital Signatures Based on Elliptic Curve Endomorphism Rings

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- 1 Introduction
- 2 Digital Signature Scheme
  - Elliptic Curve Background
  - GPS Signatures
- 3 Our Improvements
  - #1: Isogeny-to-Ideal
  - #2: Ideal-to-Isogeny
  - #3: Parallel Instances
  - Performance
- 4 Conclusion

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- Implementations are not widely available because:
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  - signing would be too inefficient to be practical.
- Our work presents three major ways to improve efficiency, and implements the scheme in SAGE.

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- The  $j$ -**invariant** is a unique element of  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  associated to each  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_{p^n}$ -isomorphism family of elliptic curves.

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$$\phi : E(\mathbb{F}_{23}) \rightarrow E'(\mathbb{F}_{23}), \quad \deg(\phi) = 3$$

$$\phi(x, y) = \left( \frac{x^3 + 10x^2 + 16x + 10}{x^2 + 10x + 2}, \frac{(x^3 + 15x^2 + 15x + 14)y}{x^3 + 15x^2 + 6x + 10} \right)$$

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- Knowledge of an elliptic curve's endomorphism ring can be used as Trapdoor Information.



## Hard and Easy Problems with Isogenies

Consider a supersingular  $E(\mathbb{F}_{p^2})$ , and a hash function  $H$  which outputs isogenies with domain  $E$ .

|                                    | End( $E$ ) known | End( $E$ ) unknown |
|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Preimage resistant                 | ✓                | ✓                  |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Preimage resistant | X                | ✓                  |
| Collision resistant                | X                | ✓                  |

Easy Problems **Hard Problems** Let  $E(\mathbb{F}_{p^2})$  be a supersingular elliptic curve.

- Given  $E$ , compute an arbitrary isogeny with domain  $E$  and smooth degree (e.g.  $2^m$ ).


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- Given  $E$ ,  $E'(\mathbb{F}_{p^2})$ ,  $\text{End}(E)$ , and  $\text{End}(E')$ , and  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , find an isogeny from  $E$  to  $E'$  of degree  $d$ .<sup>1</sup>


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- The GPS signature scheme uses these discrepancies to make an Identification Protocol.

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- Private key: Isogeny  $\phi : E \rightarrow E_{PK}$  with  $L$ -smooth degree (all prime powers dividing  $\text{deg } \phi$  are less than  $L$ ).  
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- Prover computes an isogeny  $\psi : E_{PK} \rightarrow E_C$  with  $L$ -smooth degree.  
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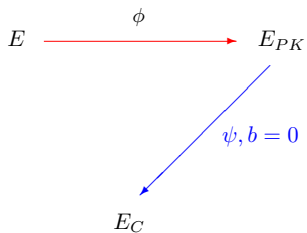
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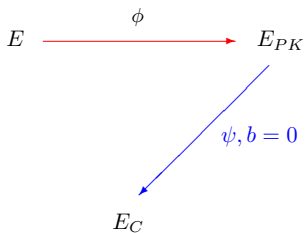
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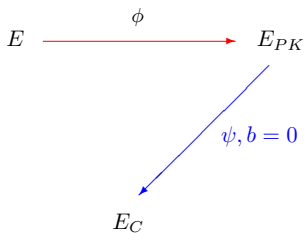


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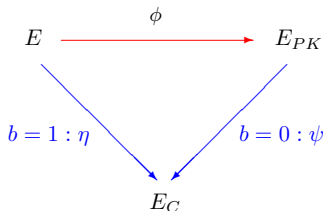


- When  $b = 1$ , the Prover reveals some isogeny  $\eta$  from  $E$  to  $E_C$  with  $L$ -smooth degree.

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**Warning:**  $\eta \neq \psi \circ \phi$



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- The output isogeny  $\eta$  will have domain  $E$ , codomain  $E_C$ , and  $L$ -smooth degree.

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- This decrease in cost from this modification is only marginal, but this computation is used widely throughout the signing algorithm.

- When  $b = 1$ , the output isogeny  $\eta$  will be a composition of isogenies, each with prime power degrees less than  $L$ .

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- We improve the runtime of step (ii) (isogeny-to-ideal) from  $poly(\ell^e)$  to  $poly(\ell, e)$ .

- Let  $\langle Q \rangle = \ker \eta_i \subset E(\mathbb{F}_{p^n})$ . To find the ideal  $I$ , we need a solution  $\alpha \in \text{End}(E)$  to

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- The original GPS work determines  $\alpha$  by searching randomly.
- We instead propose finding random solutions to  $\alpha_j(Q) = 0$  and  $\deg \alpha_j \equiv 0 \pmod{\ell^j}$  iteratively for  $j = 1, \dots, e$ .

- Reminder: When  $b = 1$ , the output isogeny  $\eta$  will be a composition of isogenies, each with degrees less than  $L$ .

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- The original work explains how to construct each extension efficiently, but not how to maneuver between the extensions as  $i$  varies.
- In the worst case, this would result in an extension of degree  $\text{LCM}\{\deg \eta_i\}_{i=1}^k \leq L^k$ .

- Recall that supersingular elliptic curves are always defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ .



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- Our proposal: after each  $\eta_i : E_{i-1}(\mathbb{F}_{p^n}) \rightarrow E_i(\mathbb{F}_{p^n})$  is computed, take an isomorphism to reduce the extension field:

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- We provide formulas for the isomorphisms in terms of the j-invariant of  $E_i$ .
- This process bounds the necessary extension degree by  $\max\{\deg \eta_i\}_{i=1}^k \leq L$ .

- Our third major contribution is a proof of security for multiple parallel instances of the GSP signature scheme.

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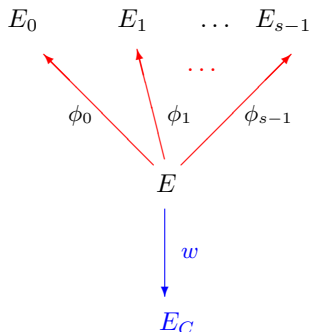
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- Allowing for a greater number of challenge bits decreases the number of rounds by a logarithmic factor.
- We provide a proof of Completeness, Soundness, and Zero-Knowledge.
- Output of the algorithm for step (iii) (ideal renormalization) in the original work has a particular form. This makes our ZK proof highly non-trivial, which is why this modification has not achieved before.

| $n$            | $\log_2 p$ | Isogenies | (ii)    | (iii)   | (iv)   |
|----------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|
| [3,10]         | 8.7        | 0.100     | 0.073   | 0.064   | 0.109  |
| [3,20]         | 24.2       | 0.217     | 0.215   | 0.366   | 0.190  |
| [3,43], [97]   | 61.1       | 1.000     | 1.356   | 0.883   | 0.492  |
| [3,113]        | 155.4      | 6.356     | 9.442   | 6.989   | 2.297  |
| [3,373], [587] | 510.7      | 174.917   | 126.520 | 173.020 | 45.270 |

Table: Time (sec) per step

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- The runtime is still too inefficient, the bottleneck is computing the extension fields.
- Our code for the KLPT subroutine is fast.

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