

# Adaptive attacks against FESTA without input validation or constant-time implementation

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FESTA: An isogeny-based PKE proposed by Basso, Maino, and Pope  
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Proposed adaptive attacks for FESTA variants in which there are no

- 1 input validation
- 2 constant-time implementation

# Background

# Elliptic curve

$p$ : a prime

$k$ : a field of characteristic  $p$

$E: y^2 = x^3 + ax + b / k$

$E$  is an elliptic curve  $/k \Leftrightarrow 4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$

# Elliptic curve

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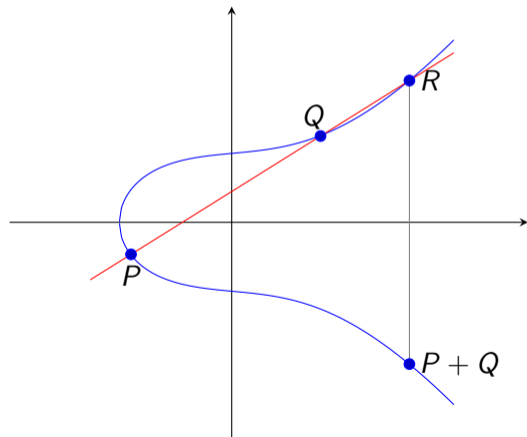
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$E$  is an elliptic curve  $/k \Leftrightarrow 4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$

- $E$  has a commutative group structure.

- $E[N] := \{P \in E \mid [N]P = \overbrace{P + \dots + P}^N = 0\}$   
 $E[N] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^2$  for  $N$  with  $\gcd(N, p) = 1$ .

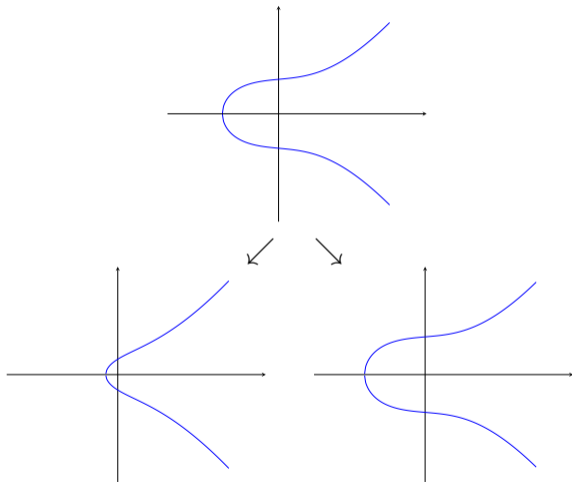


# Isogeny

$E_1, E_2$ : elliptic curves

$\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  is an isogeny  $\Leftrightarrow \phi$  is

- a **morphism** (rational function),
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- **surjective**
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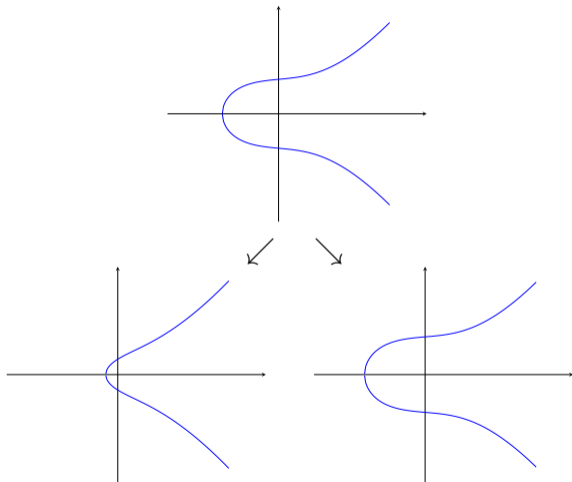
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(Suppose that  $\phi$  is separable.)

- $\deg \phi := \# \ker \phi$
- $\hat{\phi}: E_2 \rightarrow E_1$  is the dual isogeny of  $\phi$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \phi \circ \hat{\phi} = [\deg \phi]$  and  $\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [\deg \phi]$ .





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Vertices: Elliptic curves

Edges: Isogenies

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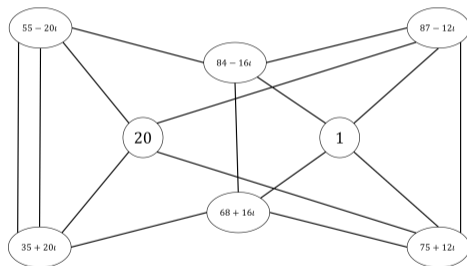


Figure:  $p = 97$ , isogenies of degree 3

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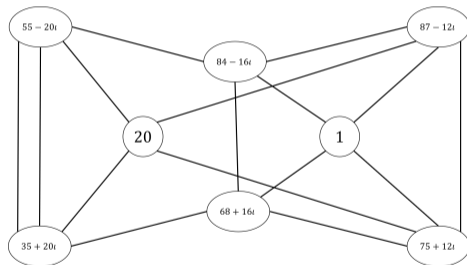


Figure:  $p = 97$ , isogenies of degree 3

isogeny  $\longleftrightarrow$  path  
deg  $\phi$   $\longleftrightarrow$  “length” of the path  
 $\hat{\phi}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  the backtracking path of  $\phi$

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## Isogeny Problem (path-finding):

An isogeny  $\phi: E \rightarrow E'$   
or  $G := \ker \phi$

Isogeny Problem  
hard

Isogeneous elliptic curves  
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# Isogeny Problem with torsion points information (1/2)

Remind that  $E[N] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/N\mathbb{Z})^2$ .

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CSSI Problem [Jao and De Feo (PQCRYPTO 2011)]

$(E, P, Q)$  and  $(E', \phi(P), \phi(Q)) \rightsquigarrow \phi$

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This problem can be solved in polynomial time. (the SIDH attacks)

- Castryck and Decru “An Efficient Key Recovery Attack on SIDH” (EUROCRYPT 2023)
- Maino, Martindale, Panny, Pope and Wesolowski  
“A Direct Key Recovery Attack on SIDH” (EUROCRYPT 2023)
- Robert “Breaking SIDH in polynomial time” (EUROCRYPT 2023)

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Put  $N = 2^b$ .

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CIST Problem [Basso, Maino and Pope (ASIACRYPT 2023)]

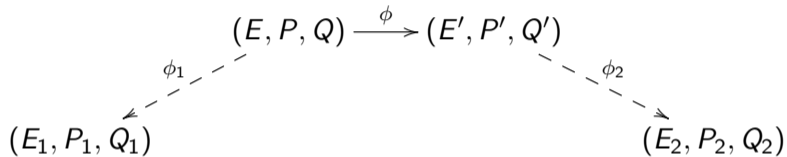
$(E, E', P, Q, P', Q', \mathcal{M}_b) \rightsquigarrow \phi$

$\mathcal{M}_b$ : a commutative subgroup of  $GL_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^b\mathbb{Z})$

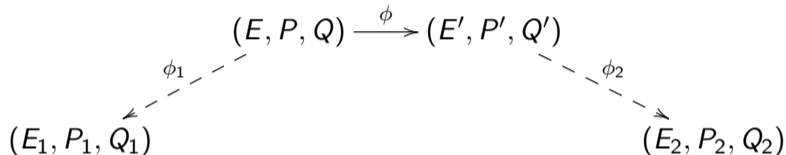
$P', Q'$ : points such that, for  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_b$ ,

$$\begin{pmatrix} P' \\ Q' \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} \phi(P) \\ \phi(Q) \end{pmatrix}$$

# FESTA trapdoor function (1/3)



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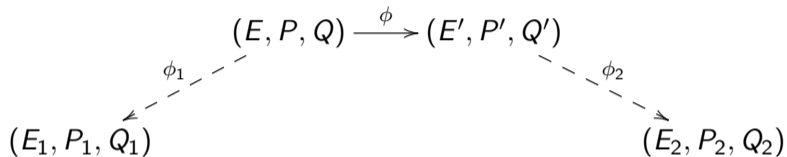
$(P', Q')$ : masked by  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_b$

$(P_1, Q_1)$  and  $(P_2, Q_2)$ : masked by  $\mathbf{B} \in \mathcal{M}_b$

$$\begin{pmatrix} P' \\ Q' \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{pmatrix} \phi(P) \\ \phi(Q) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} P_1 \\ Q_1 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_1(P) \\ \phi_1(Q) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} P_2 \\ Q_2 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{B} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_2(P') \\ \phi_2(Q') \end{pmatrix}.$$

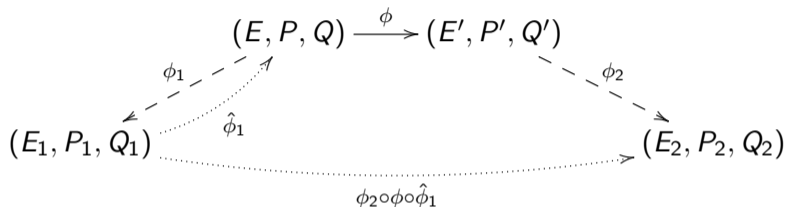


# FESTA trapdoor function (2/3)



**Trapdoor:**

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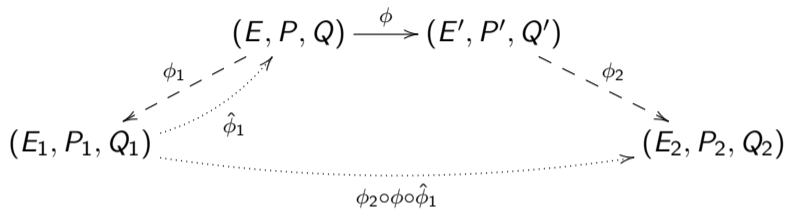
## Trapdoor:

Let  $t(P'_2, Q'_2) = (\deg \phi_1) \cdot \mathbf{A}^{-1} \cdot t(P_2, Q_2)$ .

Since  $\mathbf{AB} = \mathbf{BA}$ , we have

$$\begin{pmatrix} P'_2 \\ Q'_2 \end{pmatrix} = (\phi_2 \circ \phi \circ \hat{\phi}_1) \begin{pmatrix} P_1 \\ Q_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

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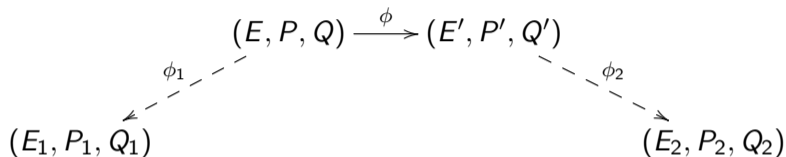
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→ One who knows  $\mathbf{A}$  can obtain  $\phi_1, \phi_2$  and  $\mathbf{B}$ .

# FESTA trapdoor function (3/3)



## Trapdoor function

Public key:  $(E, P, Q, E', P', Q')$

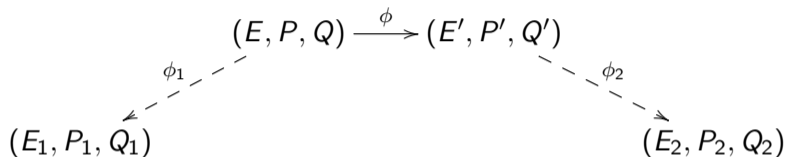
Secret key: **A**

Input:  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \mathbf{B}$

Output:  $(E_1, P_1, Q_1, E_2, P_2, Q_2)$

Inverse map: Hard to be computed without **A**

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Inverse map: Hard to be computed without **A**

**Input validation:** If **B** does not belong to  $\mathcal{M}_b$ , then the recipient rejects  $\phi_1, \phi_2, \mathbf{B}$ .

# Adaptive attack against FESTA variants

# Attack scenario

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→ Assume that Bob can distinguish the above two cases.

$$O'(ot) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{(if Alice succeeds in using the SIDH attacks)} \\ 0 & \text{(if Alice fails to use the SIDH attacks)} \end{cases}$$

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## Theorem

Consider the CIST problem.

If there is an oracle  $O$  such that, for  $\mathbf{B}_1, \mathbf{B}_2 \in \text{GL}_2(\mathbb{Z}/2^b\mathbb{Z}) \neq \mathcal{M}_b$ ,

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It is easy to see that

$$O(\mathbf{B}_1, \mathbf{B}_2) = O'((E_1, E_2, \mathbf{B}_1 \cdot {}^t(\phi_1(P), \phi_1(Q)), \mathbf{B}_2 \cdot {}^t(\phi_2(P'), \phi_2(Q')))).$$

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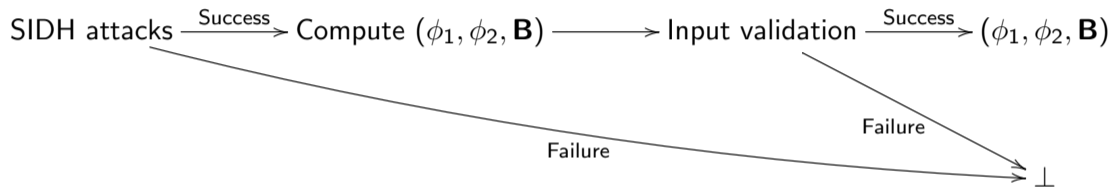
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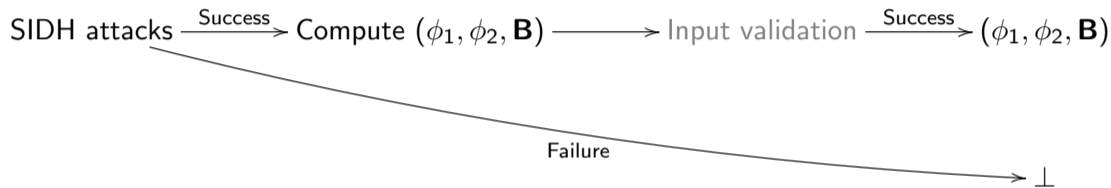
How do we construct the oracle  $O'$ ?

**Note:**  $O'$  is NOT a decryption oracle because of the input validation.

# How to construct $O'$



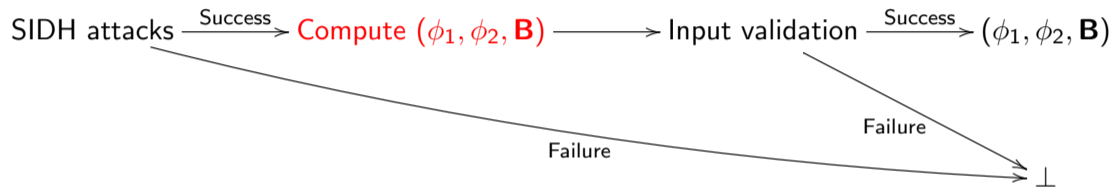




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Thank you for listening! Any questions?

# Sketch of the proof of the main theorem (1/3)

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We show the proof of this theorem in the case that  $\mathcal{M}_b$  is the set of circulant matrices.

## Sketch of the proof of the main theorem (2/3)

Put

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} \gamma & \delta \\ \delta & \gamma \end{pmatrix}, \quad \gamma^2 - \delta^2 = 1, \quad \gamma = \sum_{i=0}^{b-1} \gamma_i 2^i, \quad \delta = \sum_{i=0}^{b-1} \delta_i 2^i.$$

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Define

$$O_{\text{coeff}}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) = O \left( \mathbf{B} + \begin{pmatrix} \varepsilon_1 & 0 \\ \varepsilon_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{B} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \varepsilon_1 & \varepsilon_2 \end{pmatrix} \right).$$



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Lemma

$$O_{\text{coeff}}(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\text{if } \varepsilon_1 \gamma + \varepsilon_2 \delta = 0) \\ 0 & (\text{if } \varepsilon_1 \gamma + \varepsilon_2 \delta \neq 0) \end{cases}$$

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Assume that we already have  $\gamma^{(k-1)}$  and  $\delta^{(k-1)}$  and  $\delta_0 = 0$ .

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- $1 - \gamma^{(k-1)2} + \delta^{(k-1)2} = \gamma^2 - \delta^2 - \gamma^{(k-1)2} + \delta^{(k-1)2} \equiv \gamma_k 2^{k+1} \pmod{2^{k+2}}$

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→ We can detect  $(\gamma_0, \delta_0)$ . (Note that  $\gamma_0^2 - \delta_0^2 \equiv 1 \pmod{2}$ .)

**2 ≤ k ≤ b - 2:**

Assume that we already have  $\gamma^{(k-1)}$  and  $\delta^{(k-1)}$  and  $\delta_0 = 0$ .

- $-2^{b-k-1}\delta^{(k-1)} \cdot \gamma + 2^{b-k-1}\gamma^{(k-1)} \cdot \delta = \delta_k 2^{b-1}$   
→  $O_{\text{coeff}}(-2^{b-k-1}\delta^{(k-1)}, 2^{b-k-1}\gamma^{(k-1)})$  reveals  $\delta_k$ .
- $1 - \gamma^{(k-1)2} + \delta^{(k-1)2} = \gamma^2 - \delta^2 - \gamma^{(k-1)2} + \delta^{(k-1)2} \equiv \gamma_k 2^{k+1} \pmod{2^{k+2}}$   
→  $1 - \gamma^{(k-1)2} + \delta^{(k-1)2} \pmod{2^{k+1}}$  reveals  $\gamma_k$ .