

On the complexity of computing discrete logarithms in the field $\mathbb{F}_{36 \cdot 509}$

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute - September 17, 2013

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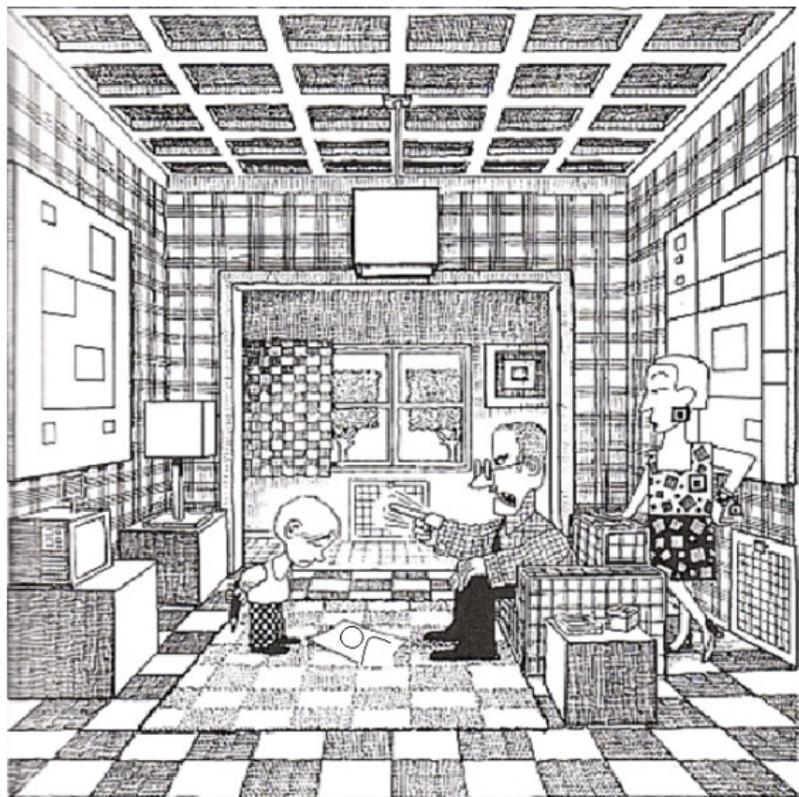
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- 3 Elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem: Given an elliptic curve E/\mathbb{F}_q and $P, Q \in E(\mathbb{F}_{q^k})$, find an integer x (if one exists) such that, $xP = Q$

Elliptic curves



borrowed from Quino.

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- Interest: smaller keys than usual cryptosystems (RSA, ElGamal, ...)

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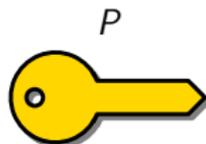
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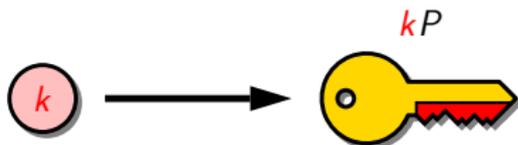
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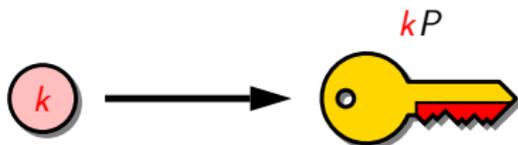
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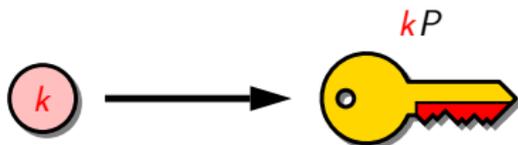


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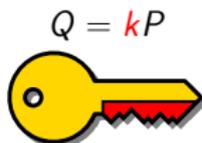
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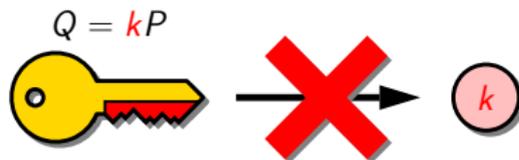
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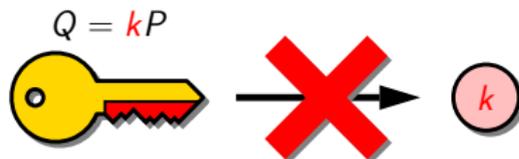
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- We assume that the discrete logarithm problem (DLP) in \mathbb{G}_1 is hard

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Pairing-based cryptography: The MOV attack

- At first, used to attack supersingular elliptic curves
 - ▶ Menezes-Okamoto-Vanstone and Frey-Rück attacks, 1993 and 1994

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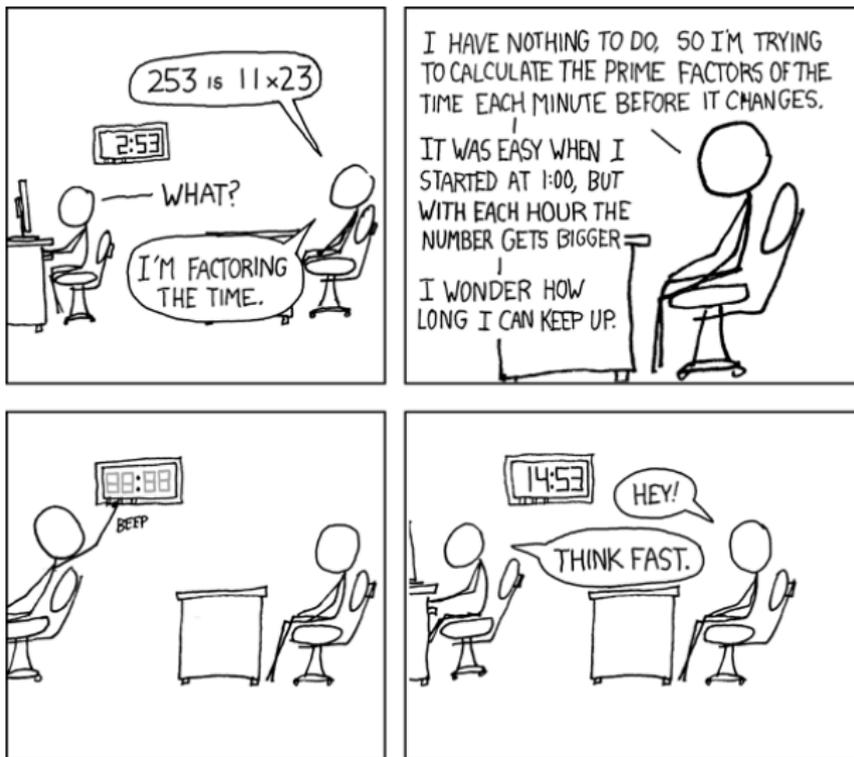
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 - ▶ \mathbb{F}_q , a finite field, with $q = 2^m, 3^m$ or p
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- k is the **embedding degree**, the smallest integer such that $\ell \mid q^k - 1$
 - ▶ usually large for **ordinary elliptic curves**
 - ▶ bounded in the case of **supersingular elliptic curves**
(4 in characteristic 2; 6 in characteristic 3; and 2 in characteristic > 3)

Time complexity



borrowed from the xkcd site.

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- A **subexponential-time** algorithm is one whose running time is of the form,

$$L_q[\alpha, c] = e^{c(\log q)^\alpha (\log \log q)^{1-\alpha}},$$

where $0 < \alpha < 1$, and c is a constant.

$\alpha = 0$: polynomial $\alpha = 1$: fully exponential

Historic major developments

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 - ▶ Pollard (1978): $q^{1/2}$.

Recommended key sizes

Security in bits	RSA $ N _2$	DL: \mathbb{F}_p $ p _2$	DL: \mathbb{F}_{2^m} m	ECC $ q _2$
80	1024	1024	1500	160
112	2048	2048	3500	224
128	3072	3072	4800	256
192	7680	7680	12500	384
256	15360	15360	25000	512

Pairing-based cryptography: Believed security circa 2012 for supersingular curves

$$\hat{e} : E(\mathbb{F}_q)[\ell] \times E(\mathbb{F}_q)[\ell] \rightarrow \mu_\ell \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^k}^\times$$

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- \mathbb{F}_{2^m} : simpler finite field arithmetic
- \mathbb{F}_{3^m} : smaller field extension
- \mathbb{F}_p : prohibitive field sizes[really?]

Pairing-based cryptography: Believed security circa 2012 for supersingular curves

$$\hat{e} : E(\mathbb{F}_q)[\ell] \times E(\mathbb{F}_q)[\ell] \rightarrow \mu_\ell \subseteq \mathbb{F}_{q^k}^\times$$

- The embedding degree k depends on the field characteristic q

Base field (\mathbb{F}_q)	\mathbb{F}_{2^m}	\mathbb{F}_{3^m}	\mathbb{F}_p
Embedding degree (k)	4	6	2
Lower security ($\sim 2^{64}$)	$m = 239$	$m = 97$	$ p \approx 256$ bits
Medium security ($\sim 2^{80}$)	$m = 373$	$m = 163$	$ p \approx 512$ bits
Higher security ($\sim 2^{128}$)	$m = 1103$	$m = 503$	$ p \approx 1536$ bits

- \mathbb{F}_{2^m} : simpler finite field arithmetic
- \mathbb{F}_{3^m} : smaller field extension
- \mathbb{F}_p : prohibitive field sizes[really?]

Index-Calculus Algorithms for DLP in \mathbb{F}_{q^n}

The elements of \mathbb{F}_{q^n} can be viewed as the polynomials of degree at most $n - 1$ in the ring $\mathbb{F}_q[X]$.

Field arithmetic is performed by means of a degree n polynomial whose coefficients are in \mathbb{F}_q , irreducible over the base field \mathbb{F}_q .

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Index-Calculus Algorithms for DLP in \mathbb{F}_{q^n} comprises four main phases:

- 1 **Factor base**: Composed by all irreducible polynomials of degree $\leq t$
- 2 **Relation generation**: Find individual linear relations of the logarithms of factor base elements
- 3 **Linear system**: Obtain the logarithms of factor base elements by solving a linear system of equations that arises from collecting all the relations found in the previous phase
- 4 **Descent**: Compute the logarithm of the given element

Attacks on discrete log computation over small char \mathbb{F}_{q^n} :

Main developments in the last 30+ years

Let Q be defined as $Q = q^n$.

- Hellman-Reyneri 1982: Index-calculus $L_Q[\frac{1}{2}, 1.414]$
- Coppersmith 1984: $L_Q[\frac{1}{3}, 1.526]$
- Joux-Lercier 2006: $L_Q[\frac{1}{3}, 1.442]$ when q and n are “balanced”
- Hayashi et al. 2012: Used an improved version of the Joux-Lercier method to compute discrete logs over the field $\mathbb{F}_{36\cdot 97}$
- Joux 2012: $L_Q[\frac{1}{3}, 0.961]$ when q and n are “balanced”
- Joux 2013: $L_Q[\frac{1}{4} + o(1), c]$ when $Q = q^{2m}$ and $q \approx m$
- Göloğlu et al. 2013: similar to Joux 2013, BPA @ Crypto'2013

Attacks on discrete log computation over small char \mathbb{F}_{q^n} : security level consequences

Let us assume that one wants to compute discrete logarithms in the field \mathbb{F}_{q^n} , with $q = 3^6$, $n = 509$ Notice that the multiplicative group size of that field is,

$$\#\mathbb{F}_{3^{6 \cdot 509}} = \lceil \log_2(3) \cdot 6 \cdot 509 \rceil = 4841 \text{ bits.}$$

Algorithm	Time complexity	Equivalent bit security level
Hellman-Reyneri 1982	$L_Q[\frac{1}{2}, 1.414]$	337
Coppersmith 1984	$L_Q[\frac{1}{3}, 1.526]$	134
Joux-Lercier 2006	$L_Q[\frac{1}{3}, 1.442]$	126

2010: The year we make contact

[2010] 2013: The year we make contact

[2010] 2013: The year we make contact

- **Feb 11 2013** Joux: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{1778}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^7)^{2 \cdot 127}}$.
 - ▶ 215 CPU hours
- **Feb 19 2013** Gölöglu et al.: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{1971}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^9)^{3 \cdot 73}}$.
 - ▶ 3,132 CPU hours
- **Mar 22 2013** Joux: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{4080}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^8)^{2 \cdot 255}}$.
 - ▶ 14,100 CPU hours
- **April 6 2013**, Barbulescu et al.: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{809}}$,
 - ▶ notice that 809 is a prime number.
 - ▶ using conventional techniques based on the Coppersmith algorithm
 - ▶ 30,000+ CPU hours
- **Apr 11 2013** Gölöglu et al.: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{6120}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^8)^{3 \cdot 255}}$.
 - ▶ 750 CPU hours
- **May 21 2013** Joux: $\mathbb{F}_{2^{6168}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^8)^{3 \cdot 257}}$.
 - ▶ 550 CPU hours

A Quasi-Polynomial Time Algorithm

(June 19 2013) Barbulescu-Gaudry-Joux-Thomé

- Let q be a prime power, and let $n \leq q + 2$.
- The DLP in $\mathbb{F}_{q^{2 \cdot n}}$ can be solved in time

$$q^{O(\log n)}$$

- In the case where $n \approx q$, the DLP in $\mathbb{F}_{q^{2 \cdot n}} = \mathbb{F}_Q$ can be solved in time,

$$\log Q^{O(\log \log Q)}$$

This is smaller than $L_Q[\alpha, c]$ for **any** $\alpha > 0$ and $c > 0$.

Cryptographic implications

PJCrypto: Post-Joux Cryptography

- 1 Discrete log cryptography
- 2 Pairing-based cryptography
- 3 Elliptic curve cryptography

Discrete log cryptography

Diffie-Hellman, ElGamal, DSA, ...

- DL cryptography over \mathbb{F}_p is **not** affected.
- DL cryptography over \mathbb{F}_{2^m} , m prime, **might** be affected.
- Note that \mathbb{F}_{2^m} can be **embedded** in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{\ell m}}$ for any $\ell \geq 2$.
 - ▶ $\mathbb{F}_{2^{809}}$ can be embedded in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{10 \cdot 2 \cdot 809}}$. It is **unlikely** that the new algorithms will be faster in this larger field.

Pairing-based cryptography

Efficient discrete log algorithms in small char \mathbb{F}_{q^n} fields have a direct negative impact on the security level that small characteristic symmetric pairings can offer:

Pairing-based cryptography

Efficient discrete log algorithms in small char \mathbb{F}_{q^n} fields have a direct negative impact on the security level that small characteristic symmetric pairings can offer:

- 1 Supersingular elliptic curves over \mathbb{F}_{2^n} with embedding degree $k = 4$
- 2 Supersingular elliptic curves over \mathbb{F}_{3^n} with embedding degree $k = 6$
- 3 Supersingular genus-two curves over \mathbb{F}_{2^n} with embedding degree $k = 12$
- 4 Elliptic curves over \mathbb{F}_p with embedding degree $k = 2$
- 5 **BN curves**: Elliptic curves over \mathbb{F}_p with embedding degree $k = 12$

Curves 1, 2 and 3 are **potentially vulnerable** to the new attacks.

Curves 4 and 5 are **not affected** by the new attacks.

Pairing-based cryptography

Example: Consider the supersingular elliptic curve, $Y^2 = X^3 - X + 1$, with $\#E(\mathbb{F}_{3^{509}}) = 7r$, and where, $r = (3^{509} - 3^{255} + 1)/7$ is an 804-bit prime.

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- E has embedding degree $k = 6$
- The elliptic curve group $E(\mathbb{F}_{3^{509}})$ can be efficiently embedded in $\mathbb{F}_{3^{6 \cdot 509}}$
- **Question:** Can logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{3^{6 \cdot 509}}$ be efficiently computed using the new algorithms? Or, at least significantly faster than the previously-known algorithms?

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- **Question:** Can logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{3^{6 \cdot 509}}$ be efficiently computed using the new algorithms? Or, at least significantly faster than the previously-known algorithms?
- **Note:** $\mathbb{F}_{3^{509}}$ can be embedded in $\mathbb{F}_{3^{6 \cdot 2 \cdot 509}}$

Elliptic curve cryptography

- The recent advances do **not** affect the security of (ordinary) elliptic curve cryptosystems.

- **Example:** NIST elliptic curve **K-163:**

$E : Y^2 + XY = X^3 + X^2 + 1$ over $\mathbb{F}_{2^{163}}$ $E(\mathbb{F}_{2^{163}})$ can be embedded in $\mathbb{F}_{2^{163 \cdot 2 \cdot 17932535427373041941149514581590332356837787037}}$ *

Elements in this large field are

5846006549323611672814741753598448348329118574062 \approx
 2^{163} bits in length.

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Elements in this large field are
 $5846006549323611672814741753598448348329118574062 \approx 2^{163}$ bits in length.
- the **Eddington number**, N_{Edd} , is the “provable” number of protons in the observable universe estimated as, $N_{Edd} = 136 \cdot 2^{256}$

A mainstream belief in the crypto community

- Several records broken in rapid succession by Joux, Gölöglu et al. and the [Caramel team](#), the last of the series as of today: a discrete log computation over $\mathbb{F}_{2^{6128}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^8)^{3 \cdot 257}}$ [Joux \(May 21, 2013\)](#)

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- **More than that**, some distinguished researchers have expressed in blogs/chats the opinion that all these new developments **may** sooner or later bring fatal consequences for integer factorization, which eventually would lead to the death of RSA
- Nevertheless, **none** of the records mentioned above have attacked finite field extensions that have been **previously** proposed for **performing pairing-based cryptography in small char**

Our question

Our question: can the new attacks or a combination of them be effectively applied to compute discrete logs in finite field extensions of interest in pairing-based cryptography?

Discrete log descent



Computing discrete logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{3^6 \cdot 509}$

- We present a **concrete analysis** of the DLP algorithm for computing discrete logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{3^6 \cdot 509}$.

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- In fact, this field is **embedded** in the quadratic extension field $\mathbb{F}_{3^{12 \cdot 509}}$, and it is in this latter field where the DLP algorithm is executed.
- Thus, we have $q = 3^6 = 729$, $n = 509$, and the size of the group is $N = 3^{12 \cdot 509} - 1$. Note that $3^{12 \cdot 509} \approx 2^{9681}$.
- We wish to find $\log_g h$, where g is a generator of $\mathbb{F}_{3^{12 \cdot 509}}^*$ and $h \in \mathbb{F}_{3^{12 \cdot 509}}^*$.

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- Once again, this field was selected to attack the elliptic curve discrete logarithm problem in $E(\mathbb{F}_{3^{509}})$, where E is the supersingular elliptic curve $Y^2 = X^3 - X + 1$ with $\#E(\mathbb{F}_{3^{509}}) = 7r$, and where $r = (3^{509} - 3^{255} + 1)/7$ is an 804-bit prime.

Computing discrete logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{3^6 \cdot 509}$: Main steps

Our attack was divided in **three** main steps

- Finding logarithms of linear polynomials
- Finding logarithms of irreducible quadratic polynomials
- Descent, divided into **four** different strategies:

Computing discrete logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{36 \cdot 509}$: Main steps

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- Finding logarithms of linear polynomials
- Finding logarithms of irreducible quadratic polynomials
- Descent, divided into **four** different strategies:
 - 1 Continued-fraction descent
 - 2 Classical descent
 - 3 QPA descent
 - 4 Gröbner bases descent

Finding logarithms of linear polynomials

- The factor base for linear polynomials \mathcal{B}_1 has size $3^{12} \approx 2^{19}$.
 - ▶ The cost of relation generation is approximately $2^{30} M_{q^2}$,
 - ▶ The cost of the linear algebra is approximately $2^{48} M_r$,

where M_{q^2} and M_r stands for field multiplication in the field \mathbb{F}_{q^2} and \mathbb{F}_r , respectively.

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where M_{q^2} and M_r stands for field multiplication in the field \mathbb{F}_{q^2} and \mathbb{F}_r , respectively.

- Note that relation generation can be effectively parallelized, unlike the linear algebra where parallelization on conventional computers provides relatively small benefits.

Finding logarithms of irreducible quadratic polynomials

- Let $u \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}$, and let $Q(X) = X^2 + uX + v \in \mathbb{F}_{q^2}[X]$ be an irreducible quadratic.
 - ▶ Define $\mathcal{B}_{2,u}$ to be the set of all irreducible quadratics of the form $X^2 + uX + w$ in $\mathbb{F}_{q^2}[X]$

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 - ▶ The logarithms of all elements in $\mathcal{B}_{2,u}$ are found simultaneously using one application of QPA descent
- For each $u \in \mathbb{F}_{312}$, the expected cost of computing logarithms of all quadratics in $\mathcal{B}_{2,u}$ is $2^{39} M_{q^2}$ for relation generation, and $2^{48} M_r$ for the linear algebra.

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- For each $u \in \mathbb{F}_{312}$, the expected cost of computing logarithms of all quadratics in $\mathcal{B}_{2,u}$ is $2^{39} M_{q^2}$ for relation generation, and $2^{48} M_r$ for the linear algebra.
- This step is somewhat parallelizable on conventional computers since each set $\mathcal{B}_{2,u}$ can be handled by a different processor.

Descent: General approach

- Recall that we wish to compute $\log_g h$, where $h \in \mathbb{F}_{q^{2n}} = \mathbb{F}_{q^2}[X]/(I_X)$. We assume that $\deg h = n - 1$.

Descent: General approach

- Recall that we wish to compute $\log_g h$, where $h \in \mathbb{F}_{q^{2n}} = \mathbb{F}_{q^2}[X]/(I_X)$. We assume that $\deg h = n - 1$.
- The descent stage begins by multiplying h by a random power of g , namely, $h' = h \cdot g^i$ for some $i \in \mathbb{F}_r$.

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- The descent stage begins by multiplying h by a random power of g , namely, $h' = h \cdot g^i$ for some $i \in \mathbb{F}_r$.
- The descent algorithm gives $\log_g h'$ as a linear combination of logarithms of polynomials of degree at most two using the combination of four different strategies.

A descent into four steps

- 1 **Continued-fraction descent:** Starting from a polynomial of degree $n = 508$ gives its discrete log as a linear combination of logarithms of polynomials of degree at most $m = 30$

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- 3 **QPA descent:** given the degree-11 polynomials of the previous step, finds their discrete log as a linear combination of logarithms of polynomials of degree at most 7
- 4 **Gröbner bases descent:** given the degree-7 polynomials of the previous step, finds their discrete log as a linear combination of logarithms of quadratic polynomials. This concludes the descent

A positive answer: Announcing the weak field $\mathbb{F}_{3^6 \cdot 509}$

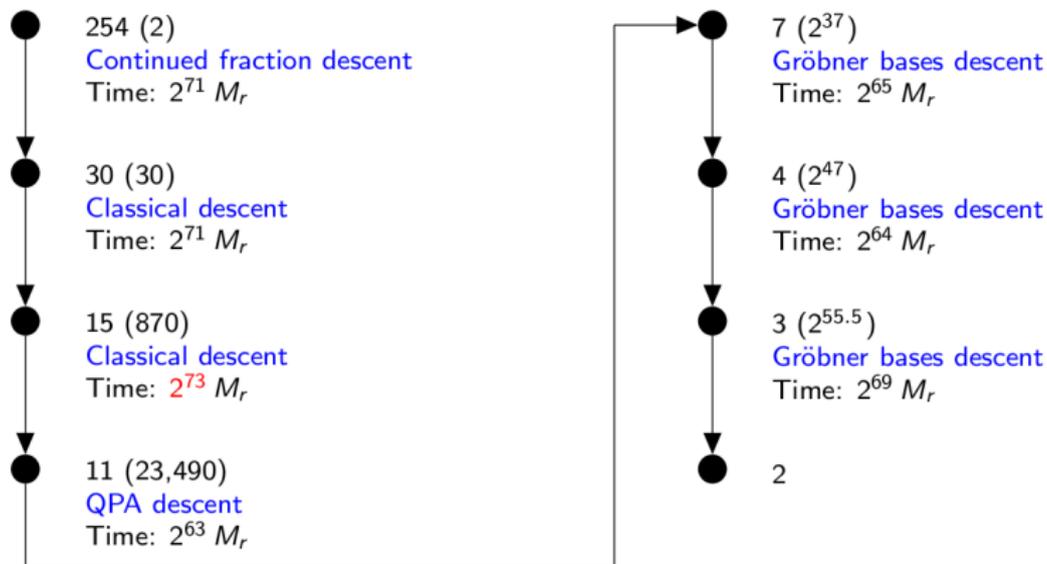
Finding logarithms of linear polynomials	
Relation generation	$2^{22} M_r$
Linear algebra	$2^{48} M_r$

Finding logarithms of irreducible quadratic polynomials	
Relation generation	$2^{50} M_r$
Linear algebra	$2^{67} M_r$

Descent	
Continued-fraction (254 to 30)	$2^{71} M_r$
Classical (30 to 15)	$2^{71} M_r$
Classical (15 to 11)	$2^{73} M_r$
QPA (11 to 7)	$2^{63} M_r$
Gröbner bases (7 to 4)	$2^{65} M_r$
Gröbner bases (4 to 3)	$2^{64} M_r$
Gröbner bases (3 to 2)	$2^{69} M_r$

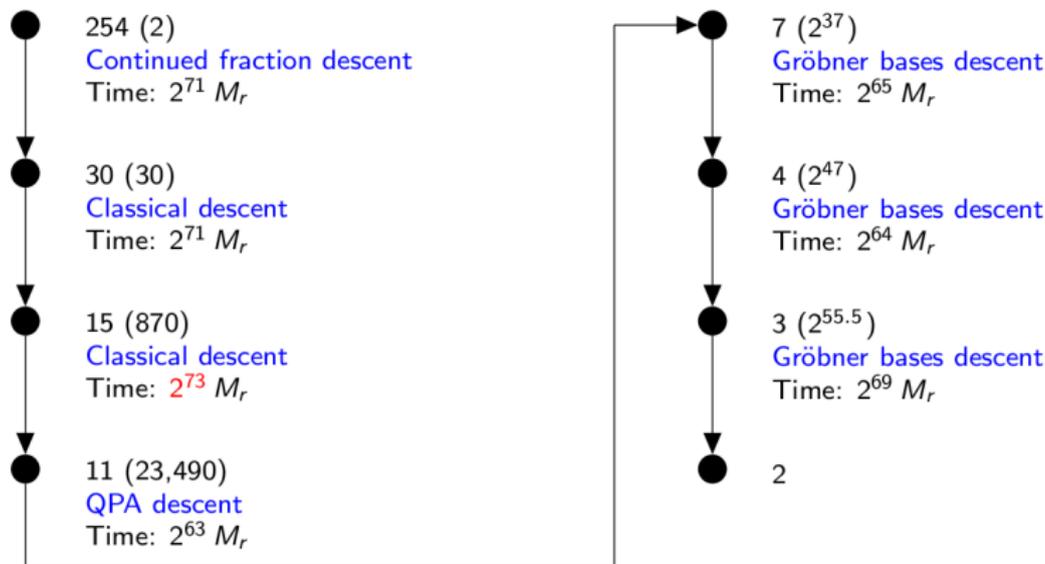
Table: Estimated costs of the main steps of the new DLP algorithm for computing discrete logarithms in $\mathbb{F}_{(3^6)^2 \cdot 509}$. M_r denotes the costs of a multiplication modulo the 804-bit prime $r = (3^{509} - 3^{255} + 1)/7$. We also assume that 2^{22} multiplications modulo r can be performed in 1 second

Descent path for a polynomial of degree ≤ 508 over $\mathbb{F}_{36 \cdot 2}$



The numbers in parentheses are the expected number of nodes at that level. 'Time' is the expected time to generate all nodes at a level.

Descent path for a polynomial of degree ≤ 508 over $\mathbb{F}_{36 \cdot 2}$



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All the technical details are discussed in the [eprint report 2013/446](#)

Post-Scriptum 0: Joux-Pierrot (September 9, 2013)

- Revisiting fields of pairing interest, the authors in the [eprint report 2013/446](#), find that the running time of computing discrete logs has complexity,

$$L_Q(1/3, [(64/9) \cdot (\lambda + 1)/\lambda]^{1/3}),$$

where λ is the degree of the polynomial that defines the field characteristic p (usually, $\lambda \leq 10$)

- For fields of pairing interest where p is 'large' the complexity of the attack drops to,

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and even to, $L_Q(1/3, [(32/9)]^{1/3})$. for some large 'low-weight' primes with low embedding degree k .

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- The analysis is asymptotic. In particular, this attack does **not** affect the 128-bit security level parameters used for the curves of class 5 in slide 21.

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- In his ECC'2013 talk, Robert Granger announced a refined version of the attack described in this presentation.

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- In his ECC'2013 talk, Robert Granger announced a refined version of the attack described in this presentation.
- This allows him to report several more weak fields in characteristic two, including, $\mathbb{F}_{2^{4 \cdot 1223}}$, a field that not long ago was assumed to offer a security level of 128 bits

Merci-Thanks-Obrigado-Gracias for your attention



borrowed from Quino.
Questions?