

# FourQ

Four-dimensional decompositions on a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curve  
over the Mersenne prime

Craig Costello and Patrick Longa

Full version: <http://eprint.iacr.org/2015/565.pdf>

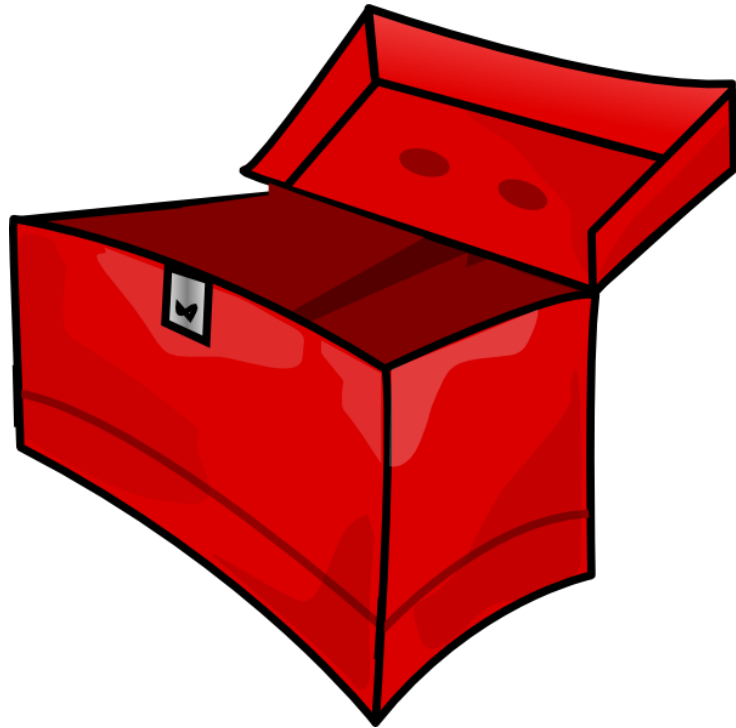
FourQlib: <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/fourqlib/>



Microsoft Research



# Elliptic curves: the best of both worlds



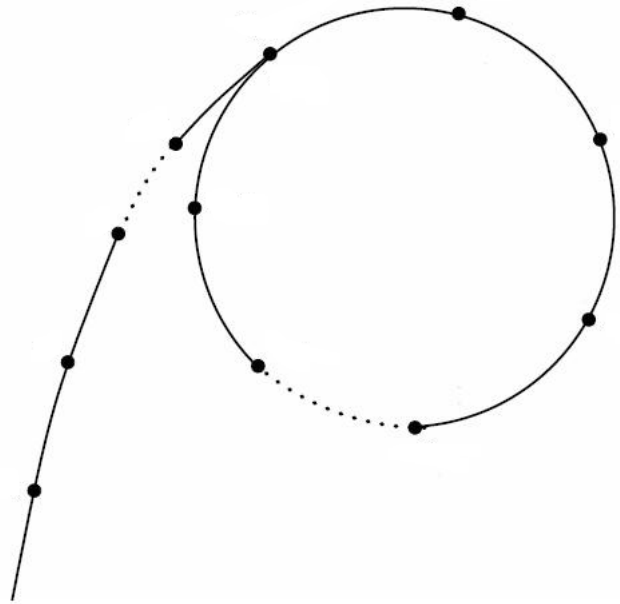
attacker's toolbox

vs.



our toolbox

# Elliptic curves: the best of both worlds



attacker: generic

vs.

$$\mathbb{P}^1 \times \mathbb{P}^1$$

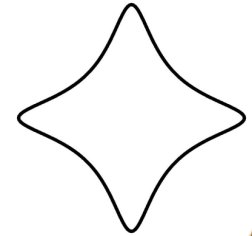
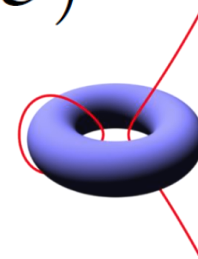
$$\mathcal{L} \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$p := 2^{127} - 1$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^2} := \mathbb{F}_p(i)$$

$$\text{Hom}(\mathcal{E}, \hat{\mathcal{E}})$$

$$\phi$$



$$\pi_p : \mathcal{E}_W^\sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_W$$

$$\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{D})$$

$$\psi$$

$$\tau : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \hat{\mathcal{E}}$$

$$(m, 0, 0, 0) + \mathcal{L}$$

us: not generic

# This work: **FourQ**

**Speed:** how fast can we possibly go while still giving the attacker a ( $\approx 2^{128}$ ) black-box group?

In other words, how fast can we compute

$$k, P \mapsto [k]P$$

while ensuring Pollard rho (is the best attack and) computes

$$P, [k]P \mapsto k$$

in  $\approx 2^{128}$  steps?

**Side-channel resistance:** don't give real-world (timing) attackers *any* advantage over theoretical ECDLP attacker

# All the tricks in the book...

1. Fast(est) field:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2} := \mathbb{F}_p(i)$ , with  $p := 2^{127} - 1$
2. Fast(est) formulas: extended twisted Edwards coords.
3. Largest(est) possible (secure) decomposition: 4-way multi-exponentiation

Prior (H)ECC speed-records with endomorphisms did two of the above, e.g.,

|                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| (1) and (2), but not (3): | [GLS'09], [OLAR'13], [CHS'14] (2-dimensional) |
| (2) and (3), but not (1): | [LS'12], [BCHL'13] (suboptimal fields)        |

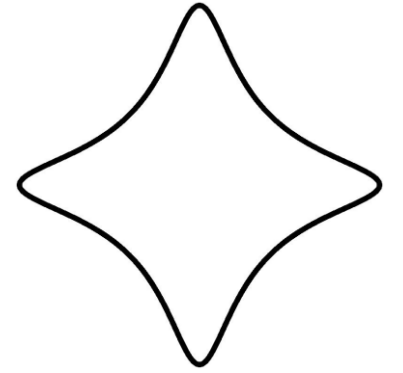
# Endomorphisms in (large char) ECC

- A useful endomorphism  $\phi : E \rightarrow E$  is a cheap way to compute a large, fixed scalar multiple  $\phi(P) = [\lambda]P$
  - Random curves won't have a useful  $\phi$ , but two ways to construct them
- Option 1 [GLV01]: special curves with (low-degree) CM
    - ⇒ only a handful over any particular prime
    - ⇒ no hope of finding secure instance over favourite field
  - Option 2 [GLS09,Smi13,Gl13]: use  $p$ -power Frobenius over (quad.) extension
    - ⇒ not so special
    - ⇒ can now find secure instances over favourite (quad.) ext.
- Combine 1+2 [GLS09,LS12,Gl13,Smi14]: for 4-dimensional decomposition...  
....but again **lose hope of best fields!**

# Lose hope, you say?

- [Gl13,Smi14]: examples of  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curves (generalized GLS) with CM
- [Smi14, Thm 6]: Only a handful ( $\ll 40$ ) of low-degree ( $d=2,3,5,7$ )  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curves with CM over a fixed field. Pretty small chance of finding strong group order
- Nevertheless, we still checked Smith's tables over *the* Mersenne prime  $p = 2^{127} - 1$  just to be sure...

# One curve to rule them all...



$$p := 2^{127} - 1$$

$$\mathcal{E}/\mathbb{F}_{p^2} : -x^2 + y^2 = 1 + dx^2y^2$$

$$d := 125317048443780598345676279555970305165 \cdot i + 4205857648805777768770.$$

- Group order is  $2^3 \cdot 7^2 \cdot N$ , where  $N$  is a 246-bit prime!
- Fastest formulas [HCWD08] "complete"  $(x_1, y_1) + (x_2, y_2) = \left( \frac{x_1y_1 + x_2y_2}{y_1y_2 - x_1x_2}, \frac{x_1y_1 - x_2y_2}{x_1y_2 - y_1x_2} \right)$
- Degree-2  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curve, meaning degree  $2p$  endomorphism  $\psi$
- CM by ring of integers in  $\mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-40})$ , meaning degree 5 endomorphism  $\phi$

Reviewer 3: *The elliptic curve itself has no real right to exist. [They searched] for something that wasn't expected to be there, and were lucky enough to find it...*



# How to use endomorphisms

- Recall our task: given integer  $k$  and point  $P$ , compute  $[k]P$
- For any  $P$ , we can now quickly get the three points  $\phi(P)$ ,  $\psi(P)$  and  $\psi(\phi(P))$ , where

$$\begin{aligned}\phi(P) &= [\lambda_\phi]P, \\ \psi(P) &= [\lambda_\psi]P, \text{ and} \\ \psi(\phi(P)) &= [\lambda_\phi\lambda_\psi]P\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_\phi = 12098939722099758392970036154455447385486035337534694534042314319425271908$$

$$\lambda_\psi = 43760231755807040276284855770911078252536368422635318376310714077319867016$$

$$N = 73846995687063900142583536357581573884798075859800097461294096333596429543$$

$$k \mapsto (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)$$

$$[k]P = [a_1]P + [a_2]\phi(P) + [a_3]\psi(P) + [a_4]\psi(\phi(P))$$

$$k \equiv a_1 + a_2\lambda_\phi + a_3\lambda_\psi + a_4\lambda_\phi\lambda_\psi \pmod{N}$$

# Scalar decompositions

$$k \equiv a_1 + a_2\lambda_\phi + a_3\lambda_\psi + a_4\lambda_\phi\lambda_\psi \pmod{N}$$

Define the “lattice of decompositions of zero”

$$\mathcal{L} := \langle (z_1, z_2, z_3, z_4) \in \mathbb{Z}^4 \mid z_1 + z_2\lambda_\phi + z_3\lambda_\psi + z_4\lambda_\phi\lambda_\psi \equiv 0 \pmod{N} \rangle$$

[think: four-dimensional version of 0]

In one dimension: if  $k \gg N$ , we would reduce  $k \mapsto k \pmod{N}$  (before  $[k]P$ )

In four dimensions: reduce (e.g., Babai) to get  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4) \equiv (k, 0, 0, 0) \pmod{\mathcal{L}}$

In one dimension, there is only one basis. In higher dimensions, there are (infinitely) many bases!

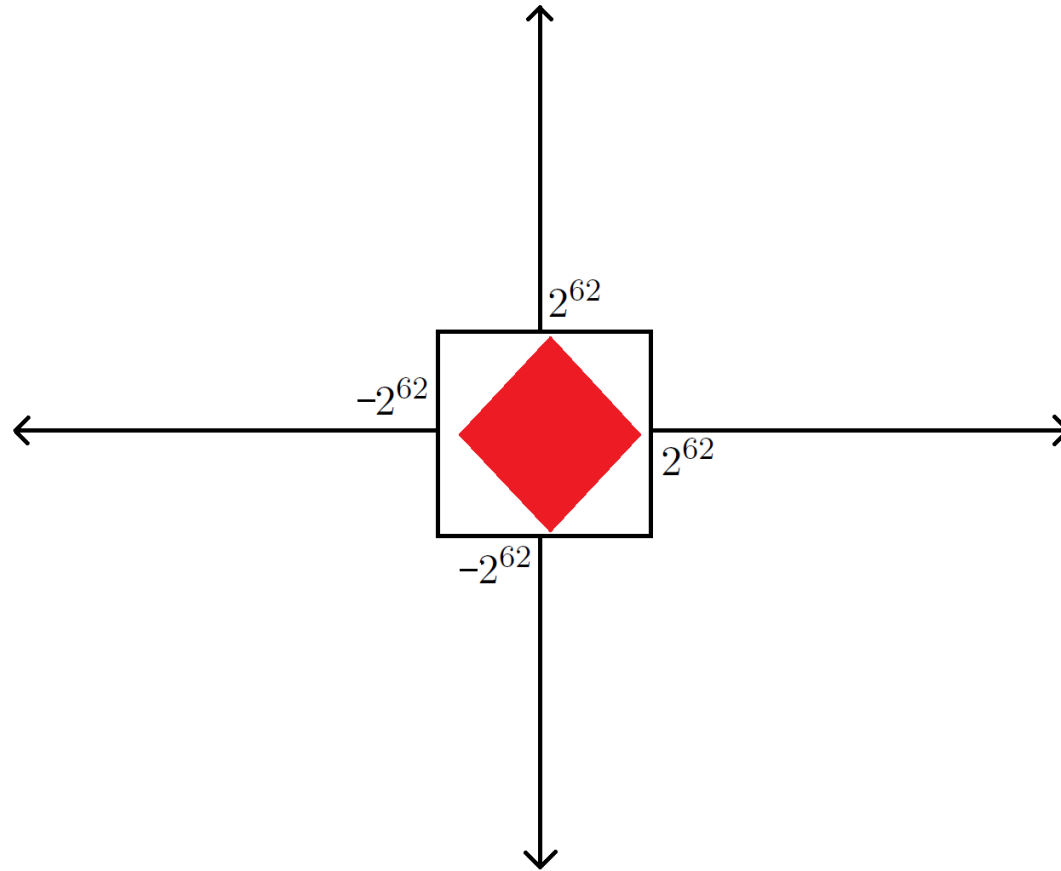
# Scalar decompositions and Babai-optimal bases

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \mathbf{B}_{\text{bad}} = \\
 \begin{pmatrix} N & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\lambda_\phi & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ -\lambda_\psi & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\lambda_\phi\lambda_\psi & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \|(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)\|_\infty < 2^{246} \\
 \\
 (k, 0, 0, 0) \begin{array}{c} \nearrow \\ \searrow \end{array} \\
 \mathbf{B}_{\text{opt}}[i, j] = \\
 \begin{pmatrix} < 2^{60} & < 2^{61} & < 2^{59} & < 2^{60} \\ < 2^{61} & < 2^1 & < 2^1 & < 2^{62} \\ < 2^{61} & < 2^{58} & < 2^{62} & < 2^{60} \\ < 2^{61} & < 2^{62} & < 2^{59} & < 2^{61} \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \|(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)\|_\infty < 2^{62}
 \end{array}$$

- $\mathbf{B}_{\text{opt}}$  is not necessarily LLL-reduced, etc. It minimizes the max possible  $|\cdot|_\infty$  across all  $k$
- Computing  $\mathbf{B}_{\text{opt}}$  is the harder part, but this is offline/precomputation/once-and-for-all!
- Computing  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)$  from  $(k, 0, 0, 0)$  is online, but Babai rounding is easy/fast

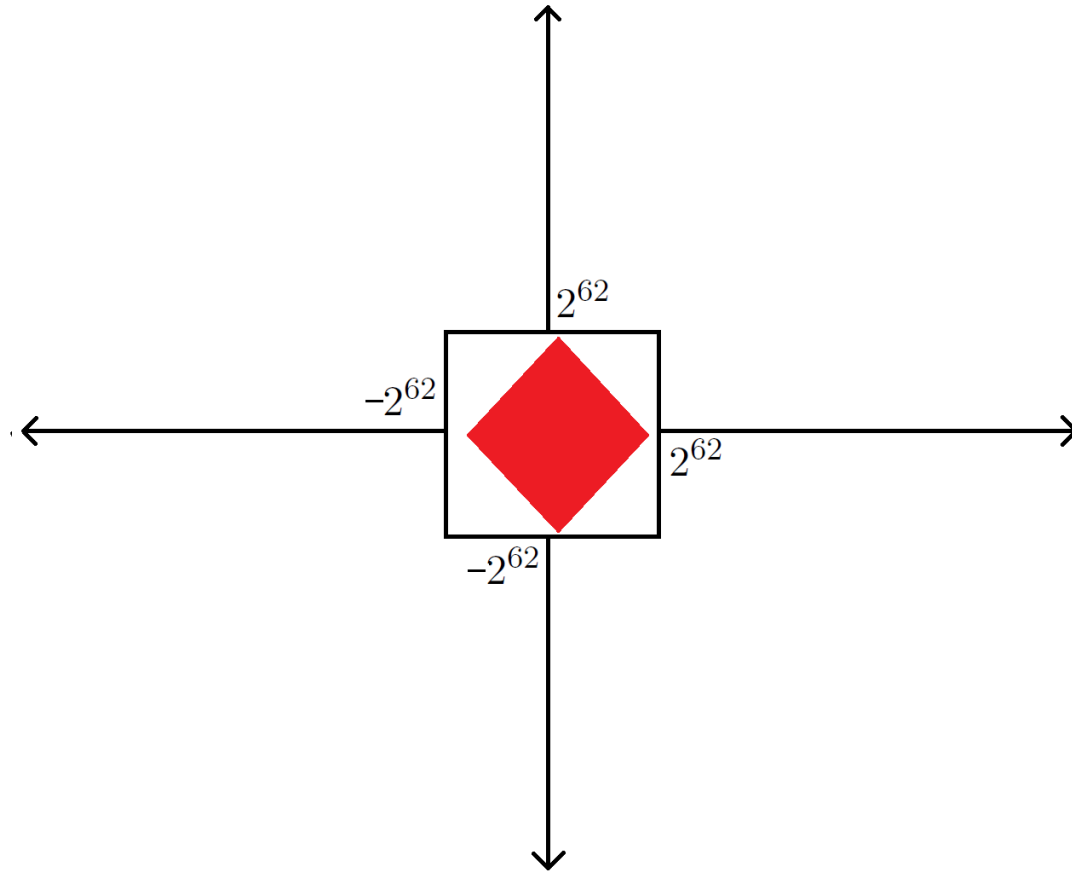
# Simplified multi-exponentiations

$$\|(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)\|_\infty < 2^{62}$$



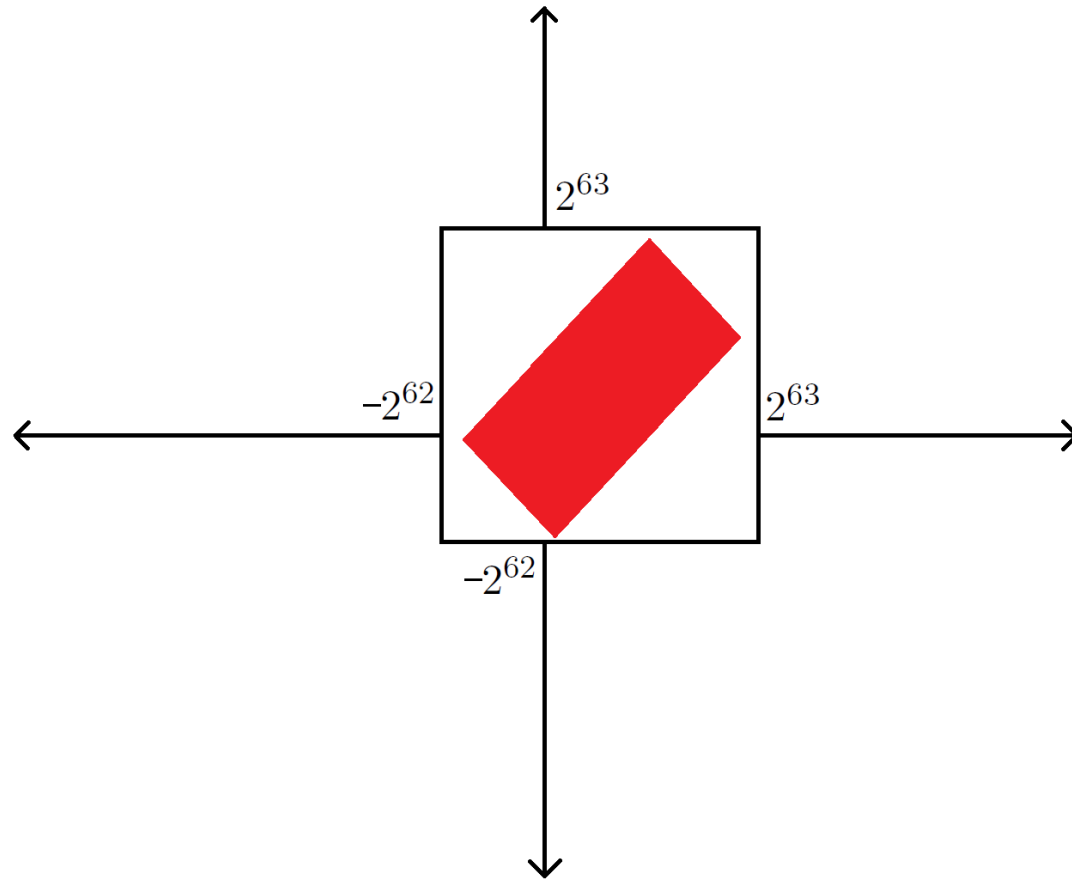
# Handling round-off errors

**Problem 1:** To compute  $(a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)$  from  $(k, 0, 0, 0)$  Babai requires four roundings  $\left\lfloor \frac{\alpha_i \cdot k}{N} \right\rfloor$  but there is no efficient way to compute them (correctly, constant-time, fixed precision)



# Handling round-off errors

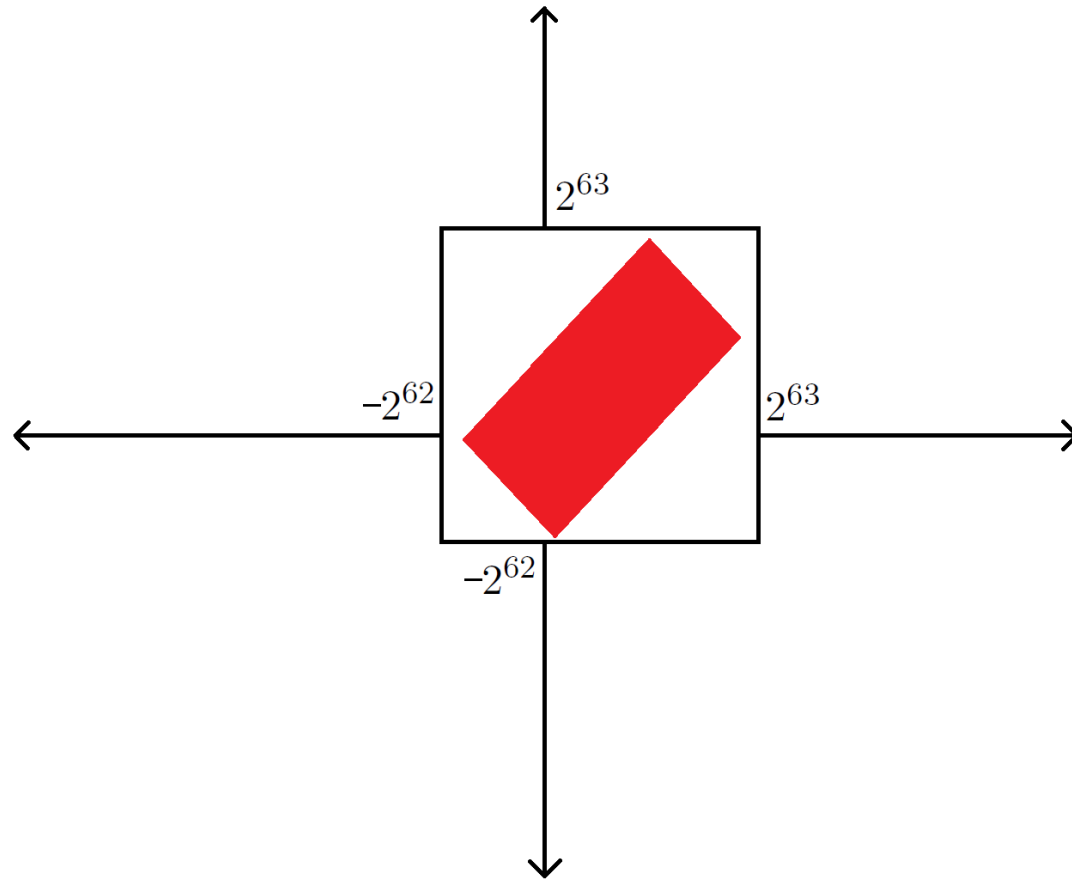
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**Solution 1:** Compute fast, constant-time approximations to the Babai round-offs

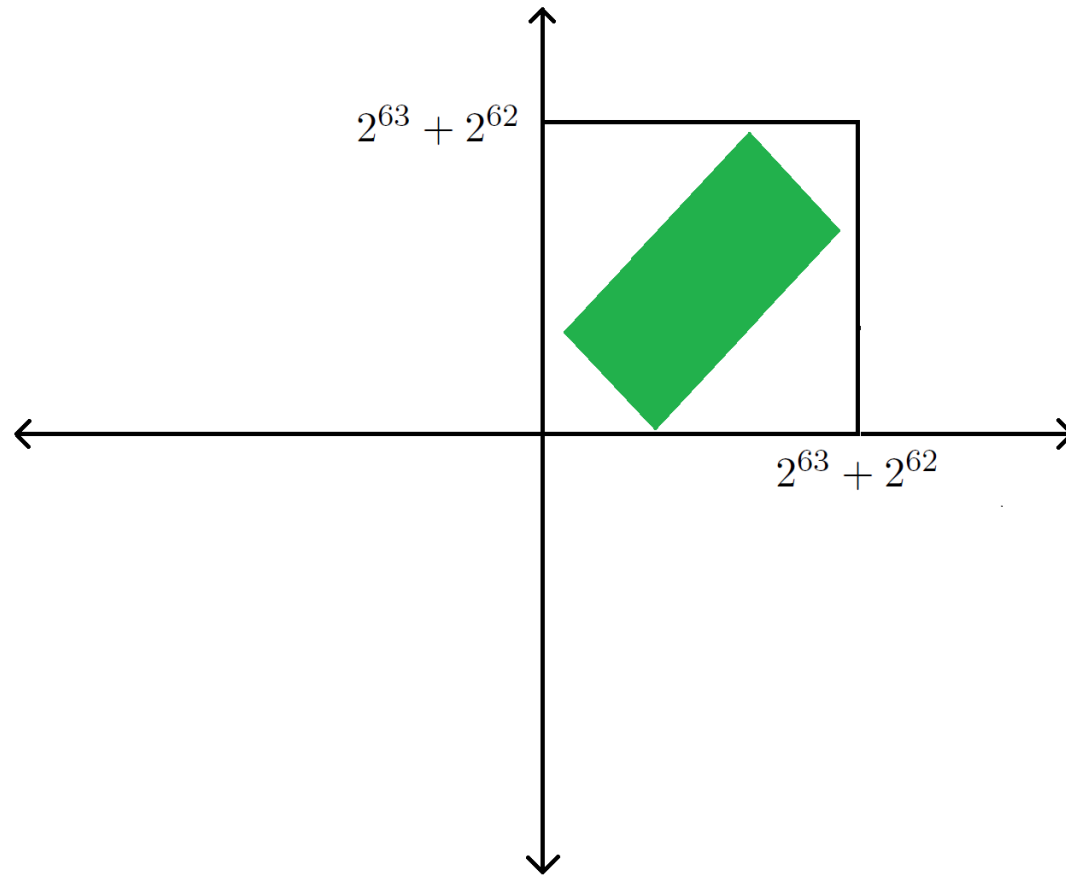
# All positive multiscalars via offsets in $\mathcal{L}$

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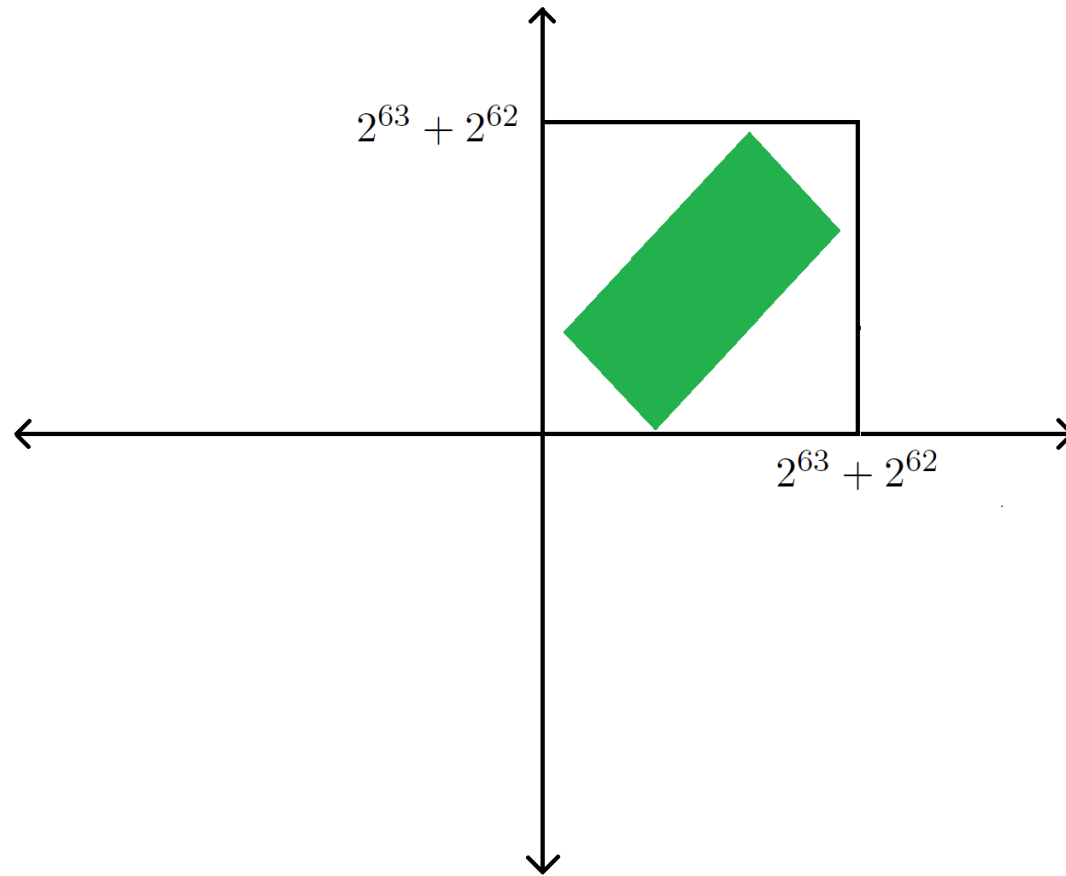


**Solution 2:** Use offset vectors in zero lattice  $\mathcal{L}$  to move to all-positive region  
[think: 4-dimensional analogue of adding multiples of the group order]



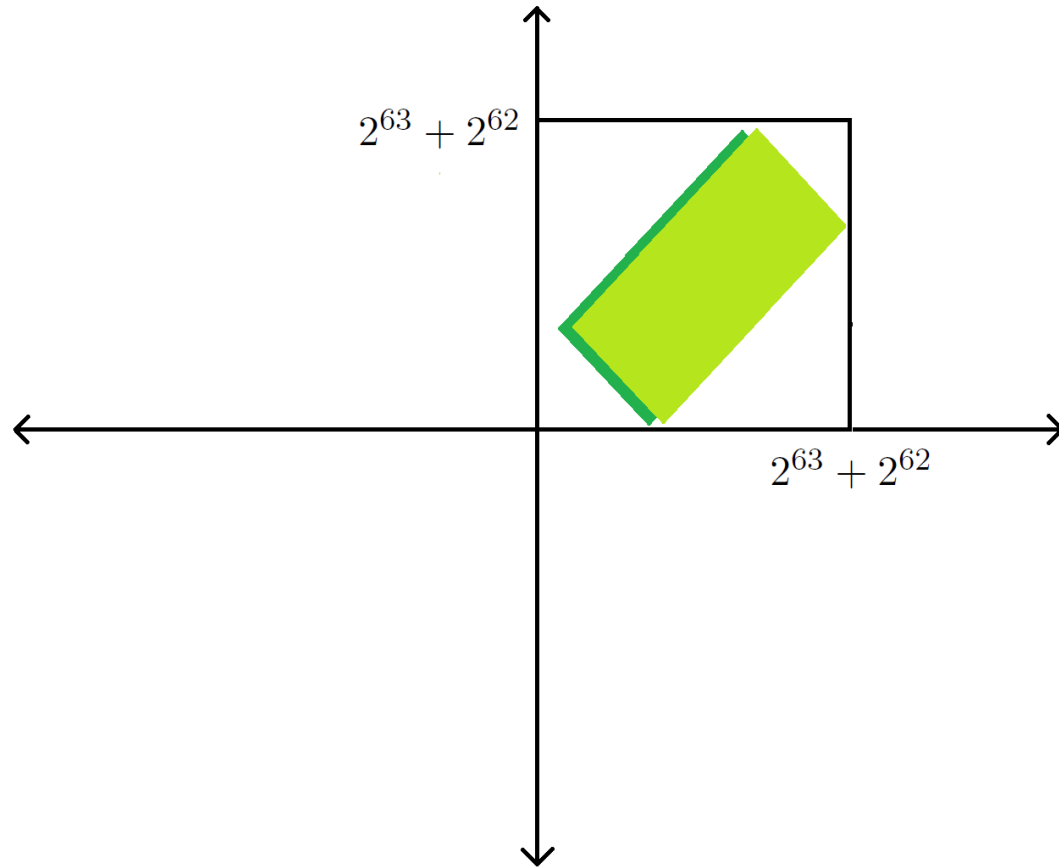
# First multiscalar is always odd

Problem 3:  $a_1$  being odd allows a signed, non-zero recoding of  $k$



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**Solution 3:** Find two translates inside all-positive box, i.e., find short vector in  $\mathcal{L}$  whose first component is odd, and make this the difference of the two translates.

# The multiscalar multiplication

- Computed  $\phi(P)$ ,  $\psi(P)$ ,  $\psi(\phi(P))$ , and  $k \mapsto (a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4)$ , now what?

$k = 64840569332679984426672436340494668739430332089137885001096300239355695153788$

$$a_1 = 14445124749170047041$$

$$a_2 = 11638376461179115075$$

$$a_3 = 5032911711680286358$$

$$a_4 = 881092582828842431$$

|         |  |                 |
|---------|--|-----------------|
| $a_1 =$ | 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1                | $P$             |
| $a_2 =$ | 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1                | $\phi(P)$       |
| $a_3 =$ | 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0                   | $\psi(P)$       |
| $a_4 =$ | 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0 | $\phi(\psi(P))$ |



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$$\begin{aligned} a_1 &= 14445124749170047041 \\ a_2 &= 11638376461179115075 \\ a_3 &= 5032911711680286358 \\ a_4 &= 881092582828842431 \end{aligned}$$

This is why  $a_1$  is odd

0, 1

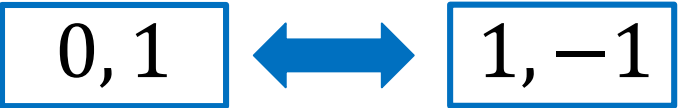
$P$   
 $\phi(P)$   
 $\psi(P)$   
 $\phi(\psi(P))$

$a_1 = 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1$

$a_2 = 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1$

$a_3 = 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0$

$a_4 = 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0$







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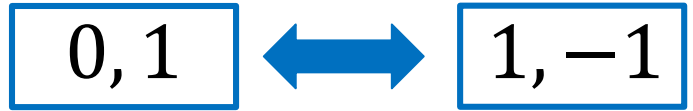
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|         |  |                 |
|---------|--|-----------------|
| $a_1 =$ | $1, \bar{1}, 1, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, 1, 1, \bar{1}, 1, 1, 1, \bar{1}, 1, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, 1, \bar{1}, 1, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, 1, 1, 1, \bar{1}, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, 1, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}, \bar{1}$ | $P$             |
| $a_2 =$ | $0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1$  | $\phi(P)$       |
| $a_3 =$ | $0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0$  | $\psi(P)$       |
| $a_4 =$ | $0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0$   | $\phi(\psi(P))$ |





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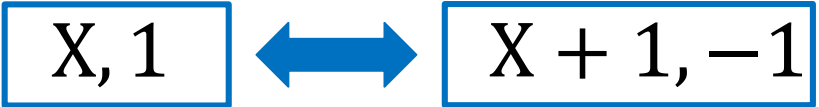
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|         |  |                 |
|---------|--|-----------------|
| $a_1 =$ | 1, $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , 1, $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ , $\bar{1}$ | $P$             |
| $a_2 =$ | 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1  | $\phi(P)$       |
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| $a_4 =$ | 0, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0, 0, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0  | $\phi(\psi(P))$ |

Lookup table still has 16 elements

So let's halve it!

Make the signs "align" vertically



# The multiscalar multiplication

$k = 64840569332679984426672436340494668739430332089137885001096300239355695153788$



$s_i = -1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, 1, -1, -1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, 1, -1, -1, -1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1, 1, 1, -1, -1, -1, -1, 1, -1, -1, 1, 1, -1, 1$   
 $d_i = 2, 7, 6, 4, 2, 4, 2, 8, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 4, 1, 4, 7, 7, 4, 8, 5, 6, 7, 4, 6, 6, 3, 8, 8, 2, 3, 4, 3, 6, 8, 3, 5, 6, 7, 7, 2, 5, 5, 2, 1, 6, 3, 5, 5, 6, 8, 3, 1, 7, 6, 5, 4, 6, 7, 3, 4, 3, 6, 6$

# The full routine

**Steps 1-2:** On input of  $P$ , compute endomorphisms and build lookup table

$$T[1] = P$$

$$T[2] = P + \phi(P)$$

...

$$T[8] = P + \phi(P) + \psi(P) + \psi(\phi(P))$$

**Steps 3-4:** On input of  $k$ , decompose and recode

$k = 64840569332679984426672436340494668739430332089137885001096300239355695153788$



$s_i = -1,-1,-1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1,-1,-1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1, 1,-1, 1, 1, 1, 1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1,-1,-1,-1, 1,-1, 1, 1,-1, 1, 1,-1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1, 1, 1,-1, 1, 1, 1,-1,-1,-1,-1, 1,-1,-1, 1, 1,-1, 1$   
 $d_i = 2, 7, 6, 4, 2, 4, 2, 8, 4, 5, 5, 6, 4, 5, 4, 1, 4, 7, 7, 4, 8, 5, 6, 7, 4, 6, 6, 3, 8, 8, 2, 3, 4, 3, 6, 8, 3, 5, 6, 7, 7, 2, 5, 5, 2, 1, 6, 3, 5, 5, 6, 8, 3, 1, 7, 6, 5, 4, 6, 7, 3, 4, 3, 6, 6$

**Step 5:** Main loop

64 DBL + 64 ADD

# Speed

**Bottom line:** At the 128-bit level, **FourQ** is significantly faster than all other known curve primitives.

e.g.,

| Platform      | <b>FourQ</b><br>w. endos | <b>FourQ</b><br>w/o. endos | <b>Curve25519</b><br>[Cho15,<br>eBACS] | <b>NIST p-256</b><br>[GK15] |
|---------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| Atom Pineview | 442                      | 803                        | 1,109                                  | -                           |
| Intel Sandy   | 74                       | 138                        | 157                                    | 400                         |
| Intel Ivy     | 71                       | 131                        | 159                                    | -                           |
| Intel Haswell | 59                       | 109                        | 162                                    | 312                         |
| AMD Kaveri    | 122                      | 226                        | 301                                    | -                           |

*Speed (in thousands of cycles) of  $k, P \mapsto [k]P$  on some popular curves & 64-bit platforms.*



# Security

- Unlike some GLV and GLS endomorphisms, no speedup in rho from  $\psi$  and  $\phi$
- Pollard rho (with negation map) best attack on ECDLP:  $2^{122.5}$  point additions in  $E[N]$
- $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  safe against index calculus/Weil descent
- Large MOV degree and trace of Frobenius
- Yes, small discriminant ( $D = -40$ ), just like other standardized curves *secp192k1*, *secp224k1*, *secp256k1* (Bitcoin's curve).



Koblitz-Koblitz-Menezs [KKM11, Ch. 11]: it could be that special (small  $D$ ) curves turn out to be more secure than random (large  $D$ ) ones!

# Further comparison to other popular curves

| criteria                        | <b>FourQ</b>  | Curve25519   | NIST p-256  |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| ECDLP security<br>(best attack) | $2^{122.5}$<br>(rho with "–")                         | $2^{125.8}$<br>(rho with "–")  | $2^{127.8}$<br>(rho with "–")   |
| performance                     | Fast  | Slow   | Very slow   |
| rigidity<br>(performance based) | There is <b>no other</b> known curve with close perf. | There are <b>exponentially*</b> many curves with equal or better perf. | There are <b>exponentially+</b> many curves with equal or better perf |

\*exp. many other constants over  $p = 2^{255} - 19$ , exp. many other constants over better fields (e.g.,  $2^{251} - 9$ ), exp. many faster fields/curve/scalar-mult choices, etc.

+exp. faster fields and faster curve/scalar-mult choices, etc.

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# FourQ

Four-dimensional decompositions on a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -curve  
over the Mersenne prime

Craig Costello and Patrick Longa

Full version: <http://eprint.iacr.org/2015/565.pdf>

FourQlib: <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/projects/fourqlib/>



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