# F4 traces and index calculus on elliptic curves over extension fields

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# Part I

# Index calculus methods

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# Hardness of ECDLP

#### **ECDLP**

Given  $P \in E(\mathbb{F}_q)$  and  $Q \in \langle P \rangle$ , find x such that Q = [x]P

#### Specific attacks on few families of curves:

#### Transfer methods

- lift to characteristic zero fields: anomalous curves
- $\bullet$  transfer to  $\mathbb{F}_{a^k}^*$  via pairings: curves with small embedding degree
- Weil descent: transfer from  $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})$  to  $J_{\mathcal{C}}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  where  $\mathcal{C}$  is a genus  $g \ge n$  curve

#### Otherwise, only generic attacks

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### Trying an index calculus approach

- Index calculus usually the best attack of the DLP over finite fields and hyperelliptic curves
- No known equivalent on  $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ , p prime
- Feasible on  $E(\mathbb{F}_{p^n})$  and better than Weil descent or generic algorithms

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#### Basic outline of index calculus method for DLP

- define a factor base:  $\mathcal{F} = \{P_1, \ldots, P_N\}$
- P relation search: for random  $(a_i, b_i)$ , try to decompose  $[a_i]P + [b_i]Q$  as sum of points in *F*
- linear algebra step: once k > N relations found, deduce with sparse algebra techniques the DLP of Q

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#### Results

#### Original algorithm (Gaudry, Diem)

Complexity of DLP over  $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})$  in  $\tilde{O}(q^{2-\frac{2}{n}})$  but with hidden constant exponential in  $n^2$ 

- faster than generic methods when  $n \ge 3$  and  $\log q > C.n$
- sub-exponential complexity when  $n = \Theta(\sqrt{\log q})$
- impracticable as soon as n > 4

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#### Our variant

Complexity in  $\tilde{O}(q^2)$  but with a better dependency in n

- faster than generic methods when  $n \geq 5$  and  $\log q \geq 2\omega n$
- faster than Gaudry and Diem's method when log  $q \leq \frac{3-\omega}{2}n^3$
- works for n = 5

# Comparison of the three attacks of ECDLP over $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$



Comparison of Pollard's rho method, Gaudry and Diem's attack and our attack for ECDLP over  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$ ,  $n \ge 1$ .

# Ingredients of index calculus approaches

#### Goal

Find at least  $\#\mathcal{F}$  decompositions of random combinations R = [a]P + [b]Q

#### What kind of "decomposition" over E(K)

Semaev (2004): consider decompositions in a fixed number of points of  ${\cal F}$ 

$$R = [a]P + [b]Q = P_1 + \ldots + P_m$$

• use the (m + 1)-th summation polynomial:

$$f_{m+1}(x_R, x_{P_1}, \dots, x_{P_m}) = 0$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow \exists \epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_m \in \{1, -1\}, R = \epsilon_1 P_1 + \dots + \epsilon_m P_m$$

• Nagao's alternative approach with divisors: work with  $f \in \mathcal{L}((m+1)(\infty) - (R))$  instead

#### Ingredients

# Ingredients of index calculus approaches (2)

Convenient factor base on  $E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})$  – Gaudry (2004)

- Natural factor base:  $\mathcal{F} = \{(x, y) \in E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}) : x \in \mathbb{F}_q\}, \ |\mathcal{F}| \simeq q$
- Weil restriction: decompose along a  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -linear basis of  $\mathbb{F}_{q^n}$

$$f_{m+1}(x_R, x_{P_1}, \dots, x_{P_m}) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} \varphi_1(x_{P_1}, \dots, x_{P_m}) = 0 \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_n(x_{P_1}, \dots, x_{P_m}) = 0 \end{cases}$$
(S<sub>R</sub>)

Additional trick: symmetrization of the equations

One decomposition trial  $\leftrightarrow$  resolution of  $S_R$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ 

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#### Gaudry's original attack

- m = n: as many equations as unknowns,  $S_R$  has total degree  $2^{n-1}$
- Diem:  $I(S_R)$  has dimension 0 and degree  $2^{n(n-1)}$

Example of Gaudry's approach over  $\mathbb{F}_{101^3}(\simeq \mathbb{F}_{101}[t]/(t^3+t+1))$ •  $E: y^2 = x^3 + (44 + 52t + 60t^2)x + (58 + 87t + 74t^2), \ \#E = 1029583$ 

base point:  $P \begin{vmatrix} 25+58t+23t^2 \\ 96+69t+37t^2 \end{vmatrix}$ 

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$$R = [658403]P + [919894]Q = \begin{vmatrix} 44+57t+55t^2\\8+11t+73t^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

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• compute 4-th summation polynomial with resultant:  $f_4(X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4) = Res_X(f_3(X_1, X_2, X), f_3(X_3, X_4, X))$ where  $f_3=(X_1-X_2)^2X_3^2-2((X_1+X_2)(X_1X_2+a)+2b)X_3+(X_1X_2-a)^2-4b(X_1+X_2))$ 

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- after partial symmetrisation, solve in  $s_1, s_2, s_3 \in \mathbb{F}_{101}$

$$f_4(s_1, s_2, s_3, x_R) = x_R^4 s_2^4 + 93 x_R^4 s_1 s_2^2 s_3 \\ + 16 x_R^4 s_1^2 s_3^2 + \dots + 94 b^3 s_3 = 0 \qquad \Leftrightarrow \qquad \begin{cases} 28 s_1^4 + 94 s_1^3 s_2 + \dots + 4s_3 + 69 = 0 \\ 49 s_1^4 + 72 s_1^3 s_2 + \dots + 14s_3 + 100 = 0 \\ 32 s_1^4 + 97 s_1^3 s_2 + \dots + 50 s_3 + 8 = 0 \end{cases}$$

• Gröbner basis of  $I(S_R)$  for  $lex_{s_1 > s_2 > s_3}$  :

 $G = \{s_1 + 33s_3^{63} + 23s_3^{62} + \dots + 95, s_2 + 80s_3^{63} + 79s_3^{62} + \dots + 45, s_3^{64} + 36s_3^{63} + 80s_3^{62} + \dots + 56\}$ 

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\*  $X^3 - 75X^2 + 25X - 75 = (X - 4)(X - 7)(X - 64)$   
 $\Rightarrow P_1 \begin{vmatrix} 4 \\ 27+34t+91t^2 \end{vmatrix} P_2 \begin{vmatrix} 7 \\ 58+95t+91t^2 \end{vmatrix} P_3 \begin{vmatrix} 64 \\ 76+54t+18t^2 \end{vmatrix}$  and  $P_1 - P_2 + P_3 = R$ 

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- Number of relations needed:  $\#\mathcal{F} = 108 \Rightarrow 109$
- Linear algebra  $\rightarrow x = 771080$

# Complexity estimates of Gaudry-Diem version

#### Analysis

- Relation step: solve *n*!*q* systems
- Each resolution with Gröbner tools has complexity in  $\tilde{O}(2^{3n(n-1)})$
- Sparse linear algebra in  $ilde{O}(q^2)$
- "Double large prime" variation  $\rightarrow$  overall complexity in

 $\tilde{O}(n!2^{3n(n-1)}q^{2-2/n})$ 

- bottleneck: I(S<sub>R</sub>) has degree 2<sup>n(n-1)</sup>
   but most solutions not in F<sub>q</sub>
- however adding  $x^q x = 0$  not practical for large q

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Instead of using Semaev's summation polynomials,

• consider  $\mathcal{L}(4(\infty) - (R))$  with basis  $\langle x - x_R, y - y_R, x(x - x_R) \rangle$ 

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- consider  $\mathcal{L}(4(\infty) (R))$  with basis  $\langle x x_R, y y_R, x(x x_R) \rangle$
- starting from  $f(x, y) = x(x x_R) + \lambda(y y_R) + \mu(x x_R)$ compute  $F(x) = f(x, y)f(x, -y)/(x - x_R)$   $\rightarrow F(x) = x^3 + (-\lambda^2 + 2\mu - x_R)x^2 + (-x_R\lambda^2 - 2y_R\lambda + \mu^2 - 2x_R\mu)x$  $-((x_R^2 + a)\lambda^2 + 2y_R\lambda\mu + x_R\mu^2)$

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roots of *F* correspond to *x*-coord. of the *P<sub>i</sub>* in the decomposition of *R* •  $x(P_i) \in \mathbb{F}_{101} \Rightarrow F \in \mathbb{F}_{101}[x]$ find  $\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{F}_{101^3}$  such that  $\begin{cases}
-\lambda^2 + 2\mu - x_R \in \mathbb{F}_{101} \\
-x_R \lambda^2 - 2y_R \lambda + \mu^2 - 2x_R \mu \in \mathbb{F}_{101} \\
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\end{cases}$ 

• Weil restriction: solve a quadratic polynomial system with 6 var/eq check if resulting *F* splits in linear factors

# Remarks on Nagao's approach

#### Analysis

- differs from Gaudry only in the polynomial system to solve
- actual resolution slower
- $\rightarrow$  not relevant for the elliptic case

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#### Practical interest

 $\bullet$  in the previous example, eliminating  $\lambda,\mu$  in

$$\begin{cases} s_1 = -\lambda^2 + 2\mu - x_R \\ s_2 = -x_R\lambda^2 - 2y_R\lambda + \mu^2 - 2x_R\mu \\ s_3 = (x_R^2 + a)\lambda^2 + 2y_R\lambda\mu + x_R\mu^2 \end{cases}$$
 yields the partially

symmetrized summation polynomial  $f_4(s_1, s_2, s_3, x_R)$ 

- $\rightarrow$  alternate computation of summation polynomials
- can be easily generalised to hyperelliptic curves whereas Semaev cannot

# Joux-V. approach

#### Decompositions into m = n - 1 points

- compute the *n*-th summation polynomial (instead of n + 1-th) with partially symmetrized resultant
- solve  $S_R$  with n-1 var, n eq and total degree  $2^{n-2}$
- (n-1)!q expected numbers of trials to get one relation

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#### Computation speed-up

- $S_R$  is overdetermined and  $I(S_R)$  has very low degree
  - resolution with a degrevlex Gröbner basis
  - no need to change order (FGLM)
- Speed up computations with "F4 traces"

Overall complexity in 
$$ilde{O}ig((n-1)!2^{\omega(n-1)(n-2)}e^{\omega n}q^2ig)$$

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• E, P and Q as before, random combination of P and Q:

$$R = [357347]P + [488870]Q = \begin{vmatrix} 6+63t+58t^2\\11+97t+95t^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

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 and  $Q$  as before, random combination of  $P$  and  $Q$ :  

$$R = [357347]P + [488870]Q = \begin{vmatrix} 6+63t+58t^2\\ 11+97t+95t^2 \end{vmatrix}$$

• use 3-rd "symmetrized" Semaev polynomial and Weil restriction:

$$(s_1^2 - 4s_2)x_R^2 - 2(s_1(s_2 + a) + 2b)x_R + (s_2 - a)^2 - 4bs_1 = 0$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad (83t + 89t^2)s_1^2 + (89 + 76t + 86t^2)s_1s_2 + (5 + 98t + 45t^2)s_1 + s_2^2 + (13 + 69t + 29t^2)s_2 + 8 + 96t + 51t^2 = 0$$
  

$$\Leftrightarrow \quad \begin{cases} 89s_1s_2 + 5s_1 + s_2^2 + 13s_2 + 8 = 0 \\ 83s_1^2 + 76s_1s_2 + 98s_1 + 69s_2 + 96 = 0 \\ 89s_1^2 + 86s_1s_2 + 45s_1 + 29s_2 + 51 = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{I}(\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{R}}) &= \langle 89s_1s_2 + 5s_1 + s_2^2 + 13s_2 + 8, \\ & 83s_1^2 + 76s_1s_2 + 98s_1 + 69s_2 + 96, \\ & 89s_1^2 + 86s_1s_2 + 45s_1 + 29s_2 + 51 \rangle \end{split}$$

• Gröbner basis of  $I(S_R)$  for degrevlex<sub>s1>s2</sub> :  $G = \{s_1 + 89, s_2 + 49\}$ 

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- Number of relations needed:  $\#\mathcal{F}=108\Rightarrow109$
- Linear algebra  $\rightarrow x = 771080$

# Summary

#### Comparison between the three approaches

	Gaudry-Diem	Nagao	Joux-V.
nb of points	m = n	m = n	m = n - 1
decomp. trials	n!q	n!q	$(n-1)!q^2$
features	deg 2 <sup><i>n</i>-1</sup>	deg 2	deg 2 <sup><i>n</i>-2</sup>
of $\mathcal{S}_R$	<i>n</i> eq/var	n(n-1) eq/var	n eq, $n-1$ var
$deg(\mathrm{I}(\mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{R}}))$	$2^{n(n-1)}$	$2^{n(n-1)}$	0 (1 exceptionally)
complexity	$n!2^{3n(n-1)}q^{2-2/n}$	$n! 2^{2\omega n(n-1)} q^{2-2/n}$	$(n-1)!2^{\omega(n-1)(n-2)}e^{\omega n}q^2$

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# Part II

# F4 traces

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Gröbner basis: a tool for polynomial system solving

 $\mathrm{I} = \langle \mathit{f}_1, \ldots, \mathit{f}_r \rangle \subset \mathbb{K}[\mathit{X}_1, \ldots, \mathit{X}_n]$  ideal

Gröbner basis

 ${\it G}=\{g_1,\ldots,g_s\}\subset {\rm I}$  is a Gröbner basis of  ${\rm I}$  if

 $\langle LT(g_1), \ldots, LT(g_s) \rangle = LT(I)$ 

#### Buchberger's algorithm

• S-polynomial: 
$$f_1, f_2 \in \mathbb{K}[X_1, \dots, X_n]$$
  
 $S(f_1, f_2) = \frac{LM(f_1) \lor LM(f_2)}{LT(f_1)} f_1 - \frac{LM(f_1) \lor LM(f_2)}{LT(f_2)} f_2$ 

- Buchberger's theorem:  $G = \{g_1, \dots, g_s\}$  Gröbner basis  $\Leftrightarrow \overline{S(g_i, g_j)}^G = 0$  for all i, j
- Buchberger's algorithm: compute iteratively the remainder by G of every possible S-polynomials and add it to G

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# Techniques for resolution of polynomial systems

## F4: efficient implementation of Buchberger's algorithm

- linear algebra to reduce a large number of critical pairs  $(lcm, u_1, f_1, u_2, f_2)$  where  $lcm = LM(f_1) \lor LM(f_2)$ ,  $u_i = \frac{lcm}{LM(f_i)}$
- selection strategy (e.g. lowest total degree lcm)
- at each step construct a Macaulay-style matrix containing
  - products u<sub>i</sub>f<sub>i</sub> coming from the selected critical pairs
  - polynomials from preprocessing phase



# Techniques for resolution of polynomial systems

#### Standard Gröbner basis algorithms

- F4 algorithm ('99)
  - fast and complete reductions of critical pairs
  - drawback: many reductions to zero

# F5 algorithm ('02)

- elaborate criterion  $\rightarrow$  skip unnecessary reductions
- drawback: incomplete polynomial reductions

- multipurpose algorithms
- do not take advantage of the common shape of the systems
- knowledge of a prior computation
  - $\rightarrow$  no more reduction to zero in F4 ?

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# Specifically devised algorithms

#### Outline of our F4 variant

- F4Precomp: on the first system
  - at each step, store the list of all involved polynomial multiples
  - reduction to zero  $\rightarrow$  remove well-chosen multiple from the list
- F4Remake: for each subsequent system
  - no queue of untreated pairs
  - at each step, pick directly from the list the relevant multiples

#### Former works

- $\bullet$  Idea originating from CRT computation of GB over  $\mathbb Q$
- Traverso 88: precise definition of *Gröbner traces* for the Buchberger algorithm, but behaviour analysis restricted to the rational case

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# Analysis of F4Remake

"Similar" systems

- parametric family of systems:  $\{F_1(y), \ldots, F_r(y)\}_{y \in \mathbb{K}^\ell}$ where  $F_1, \ldots, F_r \in \mathbb{K}[Y_1, \ldots, Y_\ell][X_1, \ldots, X_n]$
- $\{f_1, \ldots, f_r\} \subset \mathbb{K}[\underline{X}]$  random instance of this parametric family

#### Generic behaviour

- "compute" the GB of  $\langle F_1, \ldots, F_r \rangle$  in  $\mathbb{K}(\underline{Y})[\underline{X}]$  with F4 algorithm
- **2**  $f_1, \ldots, f_r$  behaves generically if during the GB computation with F4
  - same number of iterations
  - $\,\,$  at each step, same new leading monomials  $\rightarrow$  similar critical pairs

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F4Remake computes successfully the GB of  $f_1, \ldots, f_r$  if the system behaves generically

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- **(**) Assume  $f_1, \ldots, f_r$  behaves generically until the (i 1)-th step
- 2 At step *i*, F4 constructs
  - $M_g$  =matrix of polynomial multiples at step *i* for the parametric system
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 $f_1, \ldots, f_r$  behaves generically at step  $i \Leftrightarrow B$  has full rank

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# Probability of success

#### Heuristic assumption

B matrices are uniformly random over  $\mathcal{M}_{n,\ell}(\mathbb{F}_q)$ 

- makes sense for  $\mathcal{S}_R$  arising from index calculus
- not always valid, but generic behaviour can often be deduced for the first stages of F4

#### Probability estimates over $\mathbb{F}_q$

Under heuristic assumption:

 $\mathsf{Proba}(\{f_1,\ldots,f_r\} \text{ behaves generically}) \geq c(q)^{n_{step}}$ 

•  $n_{step} = nb$  of steps during F4 computation for the parametric system

• 
$$c(q) = \prod_{i=1}^{\infty} (1-q^{-i}) \underset{q \to \infty}{\longrightarrow} 1$$

#### F4Remake

# Experimental results: index calculus on $E(\mathbb{F}_{p^5})$

$ p _2$	est. failure proba.	F4Remake	F4 (Joux-V.)	F4 (Magma)
8 bits	0.11	2.844	5.903	9.660
16 bits	$4.4 imes10^{-4}$	3.990	9.758	9.870
25 bits	$2.4 imes10^{-6}$	4.942	16.77	118.8
32 bits	$5.8 imes10^{-9}$	8.444	24.56	1046

Times in seconds, using a 2.6 GHz Intel Core 2 Duo processor. Precomputation done in 8.963 s on an 8-bit field.

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#### Comparison with F5

- both algorithms eliminate all reductions to zero, but
- F5 computes a much larger GB: 17249 labeled polynomials against 2789 with F4
- $\bullet\,$  signature condition in F5  $\rightarrow\,$  redundant polynomials

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# Part III

# Application to the Static Diffie-Hellman Problem

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F4 traces and index calculus

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# Static Diffie-Hellman problem

#### Observation

Semaev's decomposition into a factor base leads to an oracle-assisted solution of SDHP

#### Static Diffie-Hellman problem

Given G a finite group,  $P, Q \in G$  s.t. Q = [d]P where d secret, and a challenge  $X \in G$ , compute [d]X.

Oracle-assisted SDHP: G finite group and d secret integer

- Initial learning phase: the attacker has access to an oracle which outputs [d] Y for any Y in G
- After a number of oracle queries, the attacker has to compute [d]X for a previously unseen challenge X

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# Solving SDHP over $G = E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n})$

$$\mathcal{F} = \{ P \in E(\mathbb{F}_{q^n}) : P = (x_p, y_p), x_p \in \mathbb{F}_q \}$$

- Learning phase: ask the oracle to compute Q = [d]P for each  $P \in \mathcal{F}$
- Given a challenge X,
  - **(**) pick a random integer r coprime with |G| and compute [r]X
  - ② check if [r]X can be written as a sum of m points of F: [r]X = ±P<sub>1</sub> ± P<sub>2</sub> ± · · · ± P<sub>m</sub>
  - if [r]X is not decomposable, go back to step 1; else output  $Y = [s] \left( \sum_{i=1}^{m} [d]P_i \right)$  where  $s = r^{-1} \mod |G|$ .

#### Remarks

- only one decomposition is needed  $\rightarrow$  no linear algebra step but the q oracle queries are the bottleneck
- Granger (2010): balance the two stages by reducing the factor base à la Harley

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# An interesting target (joint work with R. Granger)

IPSEC Oakley key determination protocol 'well known group' 3 curve  $\mathbb{F}_{2^{155}} = \mathbb{F}_2[u]/(u^{155} + u^{62} + 1) \qquad G = E(\mathbb{F}_{2^{155}}) \text{ where}$   $E: y^2 + xy = x^3 + (u^{18} + u^{17} + u^{16} + u^{13} + u^{12} + u^9 + u^8 + u^7 + u^3 + u^2 + u + 1)$  #G = 12 \* 3805993847215893016155463826195386266397436443

#### Remarks

- $\mathbb{F}_{2^{155}} = \mathbb{F}_{(2^{31})^5} \to$  curve known to be theoretically weaker than curves over comparable size prime fields
- decomposition as sum of 5 points not realisable
   → Gaudry's approach doesn't work on this curve
- we show that an actual attack with our approach is feasible

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#### Algebraic attack features

For each decomposition trial:

- associate to [r]X the overdetermined symmetrized system  $S_r = \{\varphi_1, \ldots, \varphi_5\} \subset \mathbb{F}_{2^{31}}[s_1, \ldots, s_4]$  of total degree 8
- solve  $S_r$  in  $\mathbb{F}_{2^{31}}$  with degrevlex Gröbner basis computation Expected number of decomposition tests:  $4!2^{31} \simeq 5.10^{10}$

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#### Timings

• Magma (V2.15-15): each decomposition trial takes about 1 sec

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#### Timings

- Magma (V2.15-15): each decomposition trial takes about 1 sec
- F4Variant + dedicated optimizations of arithmetic and linear algebra
   → only 22.95 ms per test on a 2.93 GHz Intel Xeon processor
   (≃ 400× faster than results in odd characteristic)

# Conclusion

- A variant of the index calculus method on elliptic curves over small degree extension fields
- F4 traces: a new tool for Gröbner basis computations
   → useful as soon as one needs to solve several systems with similar shapes
- Our variant still to slow to threaten DLP on curves with current level of security but efficient on non-standard problems
- In particular, feasible attack on the 'Well Known Group' 3 Oakley curve:

 $\rightarrow$  oracle-assisted SDHP solvable in  $\leq 2$  weeks with 1000 processors after a learning phase of  $2^{30}$  oracle queries

# F4 traces and index calculus on elliptic curves over extension fields

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