

# Accelerating the Delfs–Galbraith Algorithm with Fast Subfield Root Detection

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Based on joint work with Craig Costello and Jia Shi

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March 18, 2022

# Outline

- 1 The Supersingular Isogeny Problem
- 2 The Delfs–Galbraith Algorithm
- 3 SuperSolver: Accelerating Delfs–Galbraith’s Algorithm
- 4 Worked Example
- 5 Results and Conclusions

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# The Supersingular Isogeny Problem

In its most general form, the *supersingular isogeny problem* asks to find an isogeny

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between two given supersingular elliptic curves  $E_1/\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  and  $E_2/\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ .

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The best known classical attack against this general problem is the **Delfs–Galbraith algorithm**.

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- Develop an efficient method to detect if a polynomial  $f(X) \in \mathbb{F}_{p^d}[X]$  has a root in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .
- Use this to introduce an improved attack, SuperSolver, with lower concrete complexity.

# The Supersingular Isogeny Graph $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$

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**Vertices:**  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ -isomorphism classes of supersingular elliptic curves  $E$  over  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ . These classes are represented by curves defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  and are represented by a  $j$ -invariant in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ .

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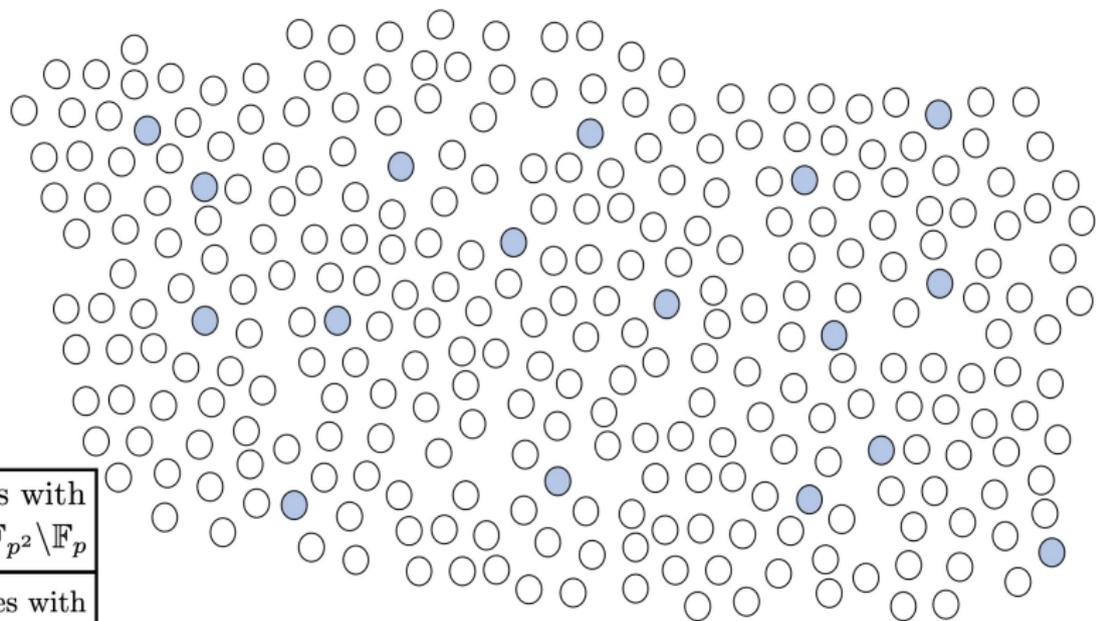
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- Ramanujan graph: *rapid mixing*.

# The Supersingular Isogeny Graph $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$



$O(p)$  nodes with

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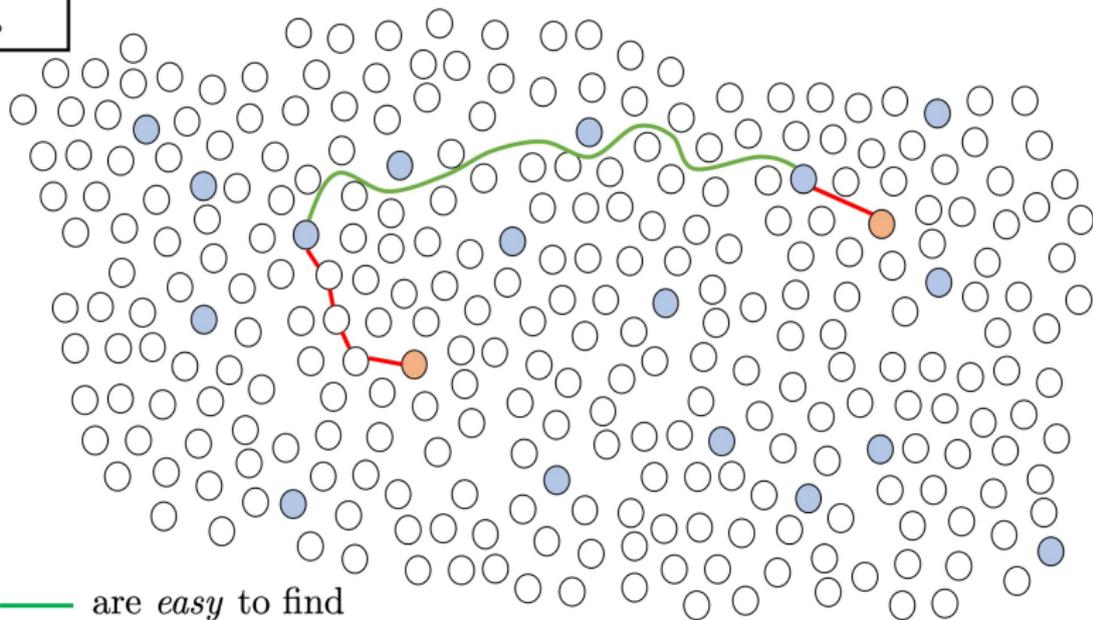
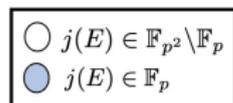
$O(\sqrt{p})$  nodes with

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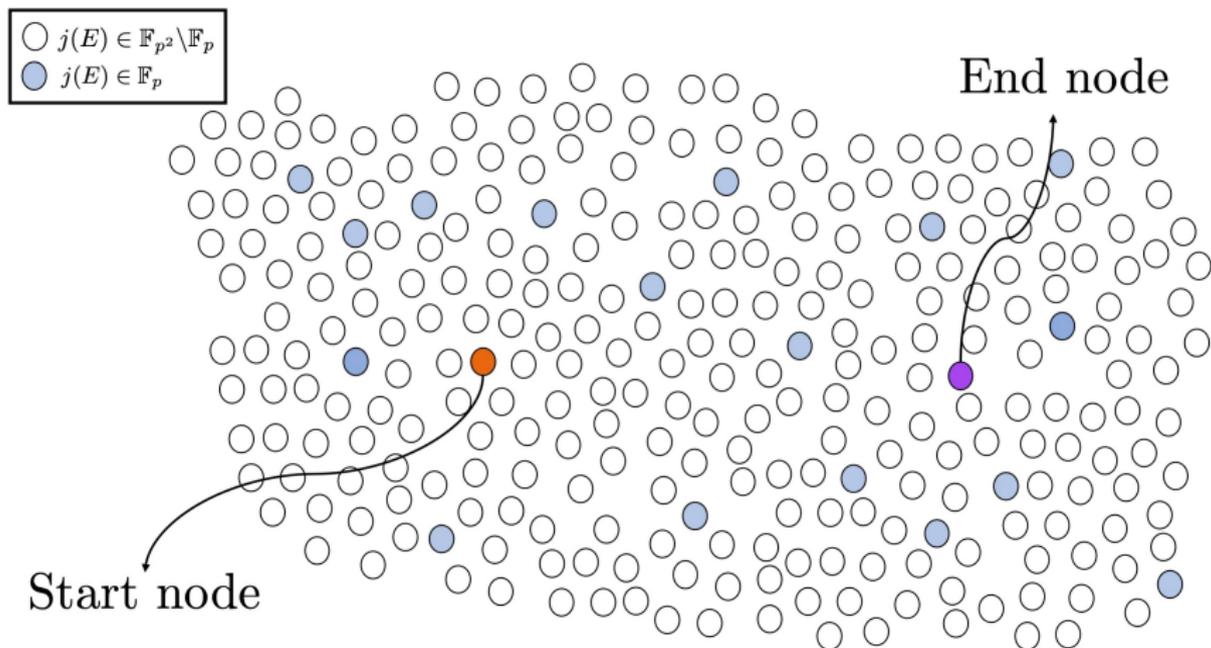
# Key Observation



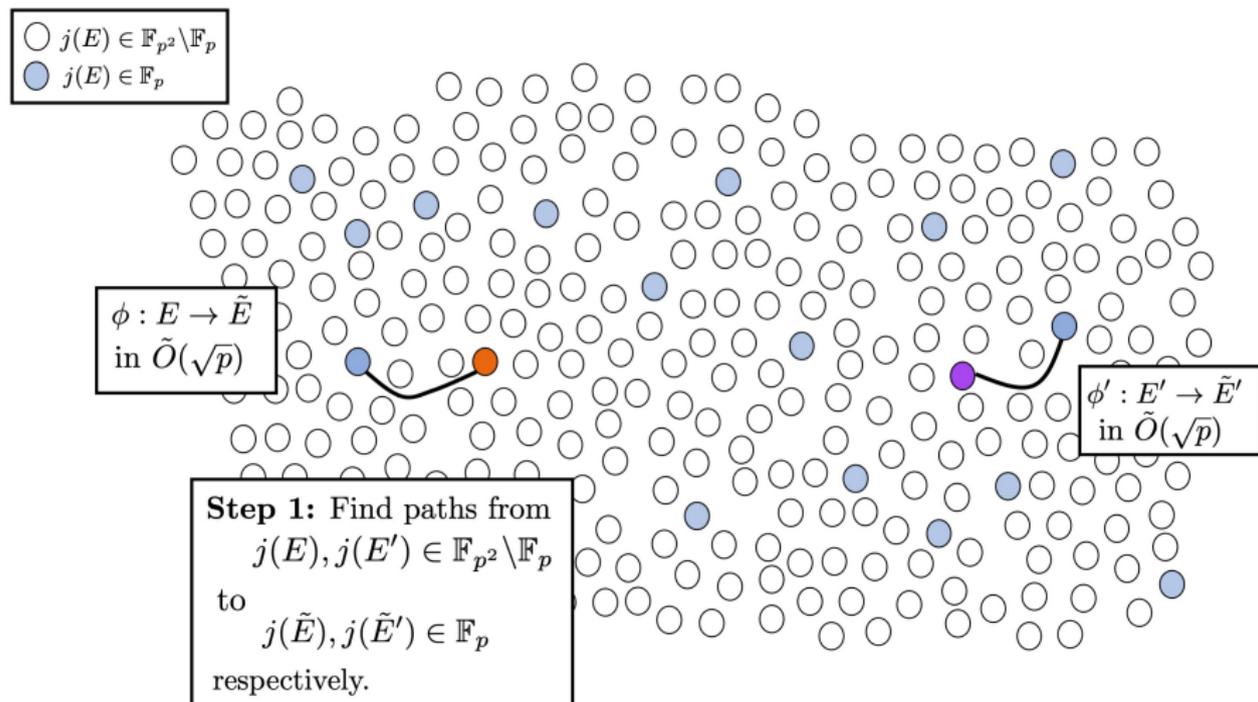
Paths — are *easy* to find

Finding paths — is the bottleneck

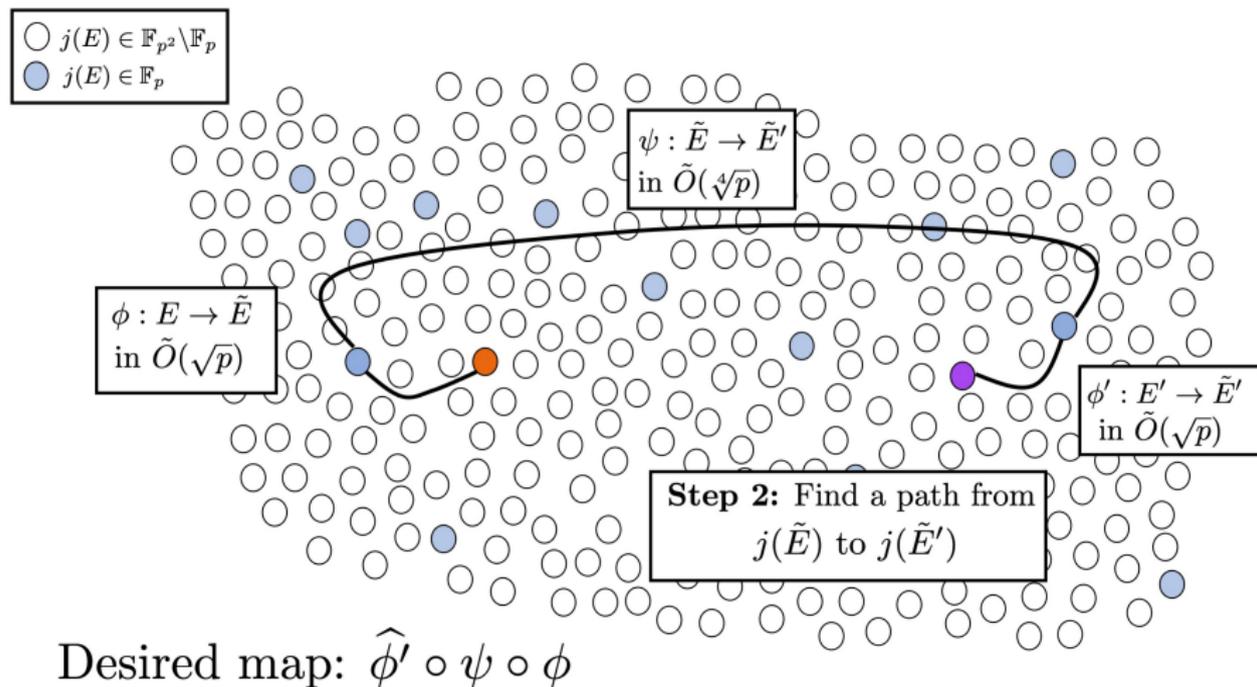
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# Modular Polynomial

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- of degree  $N_\ell$  in both  $X$  and  $Y$ , where

$$N_\ell := \prod_{i=1}^n (\ell_i + 1) \ell_i^{e_i - 1}, \text{ for prime decomposition } \prod_{i=1}^n \ell_i^{e_i} \text{ of } \ell.$$

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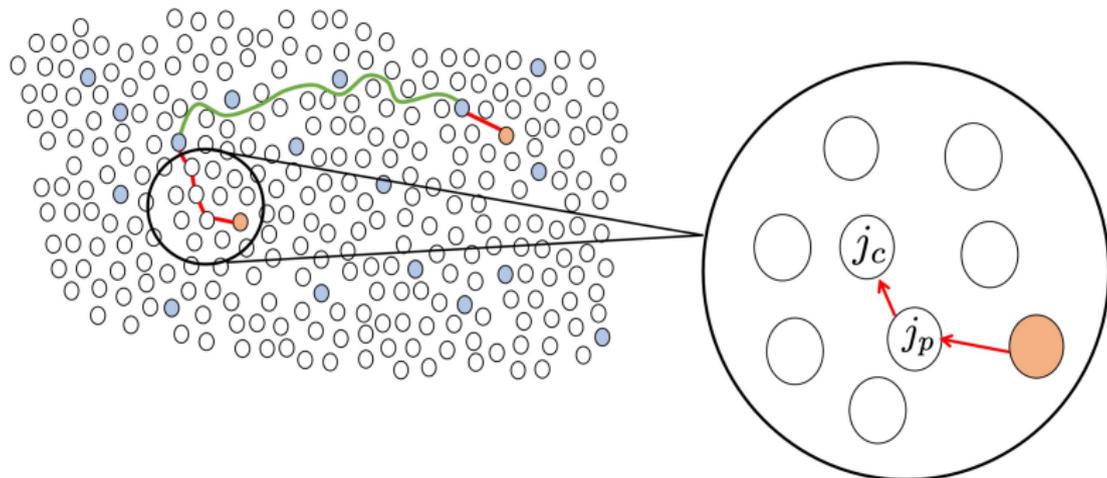
This tells us that the roots of  $\Phi_{\ell,p}(X, j)$  are neighbours of  $j$  in  $\mathcal{X}(\mathbb{F}_p, \ell)$ . Reducing coefficients mod  $p$  we can work with  $\Phi_{\ell,p}(X, Y) \in \mathbb{F}_p[X, Y]$ .

Taking a step in  $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$

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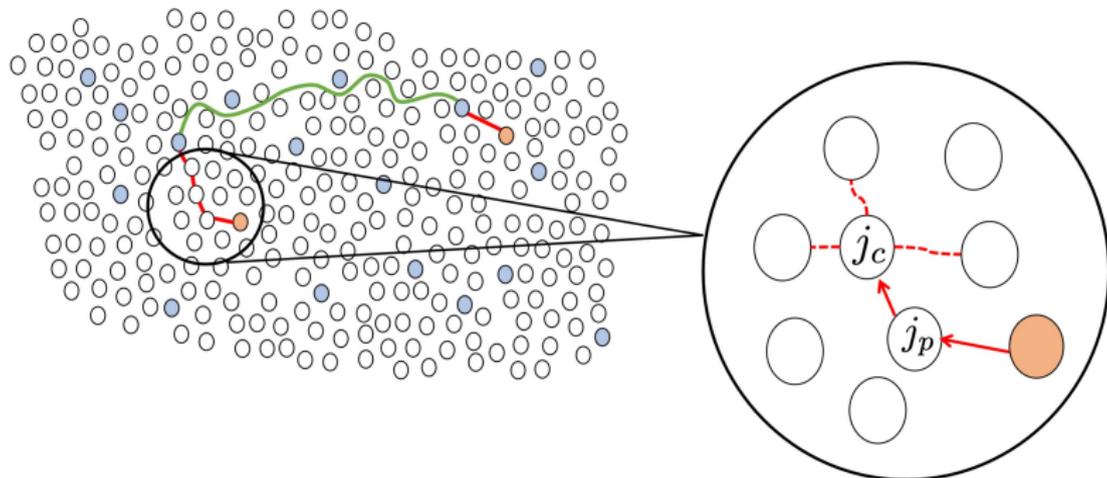
Taking a self-avoiding step in  $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$ :



1. Store the current and previous  $j$ -invariants  $j_c$  and  $j_p$ .

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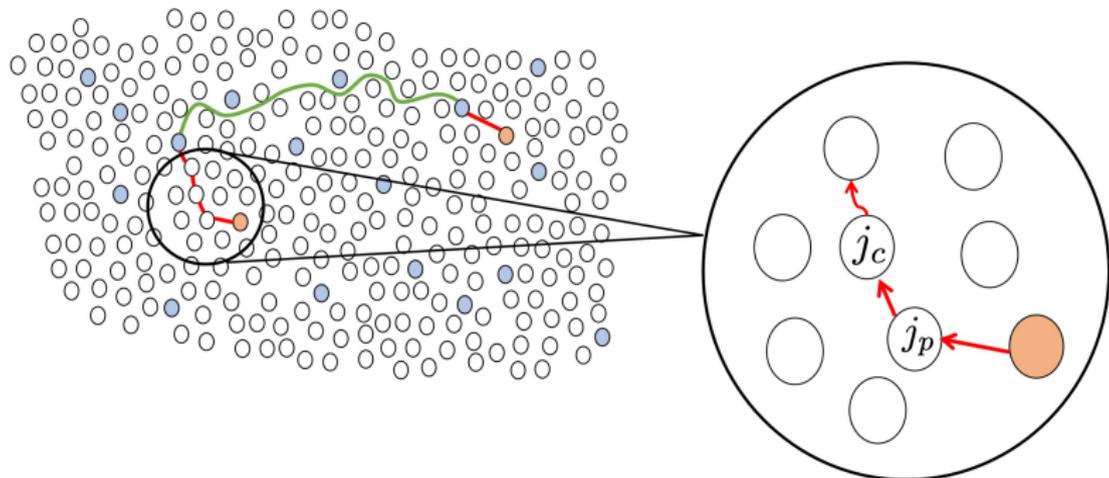
Taking a self-avoiding step in  $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$ :



2. Find the  $N_\ell - 1$  roots of  $\Phi_{\ell,p}(X, j_c)/(X - j_p)$ .

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3. Choose one of these and walk to the corresponding node.

# Concrete Complexity of Delfs–Galbraith

Solver is an optimised implementation of the Delfs–Galbraith algorithm with  $\ell = 2$ .

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Experimentally, given a node  $j \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2} \setminus \mathbb{F}_p$ , the average number of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  multiplications needed to find a path to a node  $j' \in \mathbb{F}_p$  is

$$c \cdot \sqrt{p} \cdot \log_2 p,$$

with  $0.75 \leq c \leq 1.05$ .

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## Key Observation

At each step, the precise values of the  $\ell$ -isogenous neighbours do not need to be known, only whether it lies in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

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At each step of the random walk in  $\mathcal{X}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, 2)$ , SuperSolver inspects the  $\ell$ -isogeny graph with fast subfield root detection for  $\ell$  in a carefully chosen set, to efficiently detect whether  $j_c$  has an  $\ell$ -isogenous neighbour in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

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# Fast Subfield Root Detection

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## Lemma

Let  $\pi$  be the  $p$ -power Frobenius map and  $f$  a polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}[X]$ . Then,  $\gcd(f, \pi(f))$  is the largest divisor of  $f$  defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

In particular, if

$$\deg(\gcd(f, \pi(f))) = \begin{cases} 1, & f \text{ has a root in } \mathbb{F}_p \\ 0, & f \text{ does not have a root in } \mathbb{F}_p \end{cases}.$$

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## Observation

For polynomials  $f_1, f_2 \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}[X]$ , if

$$g_1 = af_1 + bf_2, \text{ and } g_2 = cf_1 + df_2,$$

with  $a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  such that  $ad - bc \neq 0$  with we have

$$\gcd(f_1, f_2) = \gcd(g_1, g_2).$$

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We can avoid **all** multiplications over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ : if we write the coefficients of  $f(X)$  as  $a_k^{(1)} + a_k^{(2)}\alpha$  (say  $\alpha^2 = -1$ ), then

$$g_1(X) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k^{(1)} X^k, \text{ and } g_2(X) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k^{(2)} X^k.$$

## List of Optimal $\ell$ 's

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- 2 Determine the cost per node inspected in the  $\ell$ -isogeny graph:  $\text{cost}_\ell$ .
- 3 Determine a list  $L = [\ell_1, \dots, \ell_n]$  of  $\ell_i > 2$  with  $\text{cost}_\ell < \text{cost}_2$

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We want to compute a list of  $\ell$ 's that minimise  $\#\mathbb{F}_p$  multiplications per node inspected.

- 1 Determine the cost per node revealed of taking a step in the 2-isogeny graph:  $\text{cost}_2$
- 2 Determine the cost per node inspected in the  $\ell$ -isogeny graph:  $\text{cost}_\ell$ .
- 3 Determine a list  $L = [\ell_1, \dots, \ell_n]$  of  $\ell_i > 2$  with  $\text{cost}_\ell < \text{cost}_2$
- 4 Find the subset of  $L$  that minimises the total cost of each step:

$$\text{cost} = \frac{\text{total } \# \text{ of } \mathbb{F}_p \text{ multiplications}}{\text{total } \# \text{ of nodes revealed}}.$$

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Calculating the list of optimal  $\ell$ 's can be done in precomputation.

# Outline

- 1 The Supersingular Isogeny Problem
- 2 The Delfs–Galbraith Algorithm
- 3 SuperSolver: Accelerating Delfs–Galbraith’s Algorithm
- 4 Worked Example**
- 5 Results and Conclusions

## Worked Example: Precomputation

Let  $p = 2^{20} - 3$ .

- Construct the extension field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2} = \mathbb{F}_p(\alpha)$ , where  $\alpha^2$  is the first non-square in  $-1, -2, 2, -3, 3, \dots$

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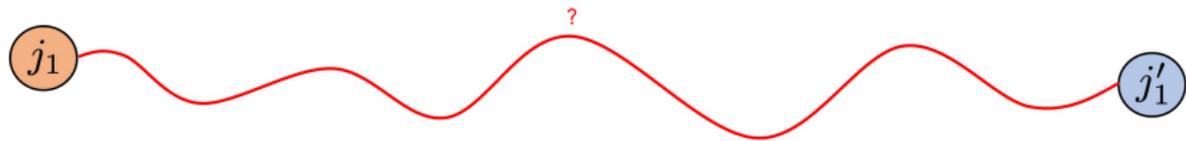
Sample our start and end node:

**Start Node:**  $j_1 = 129007\alpha + 818380$

**End Node:**  $j_2 = 97589\alpha + 660383$

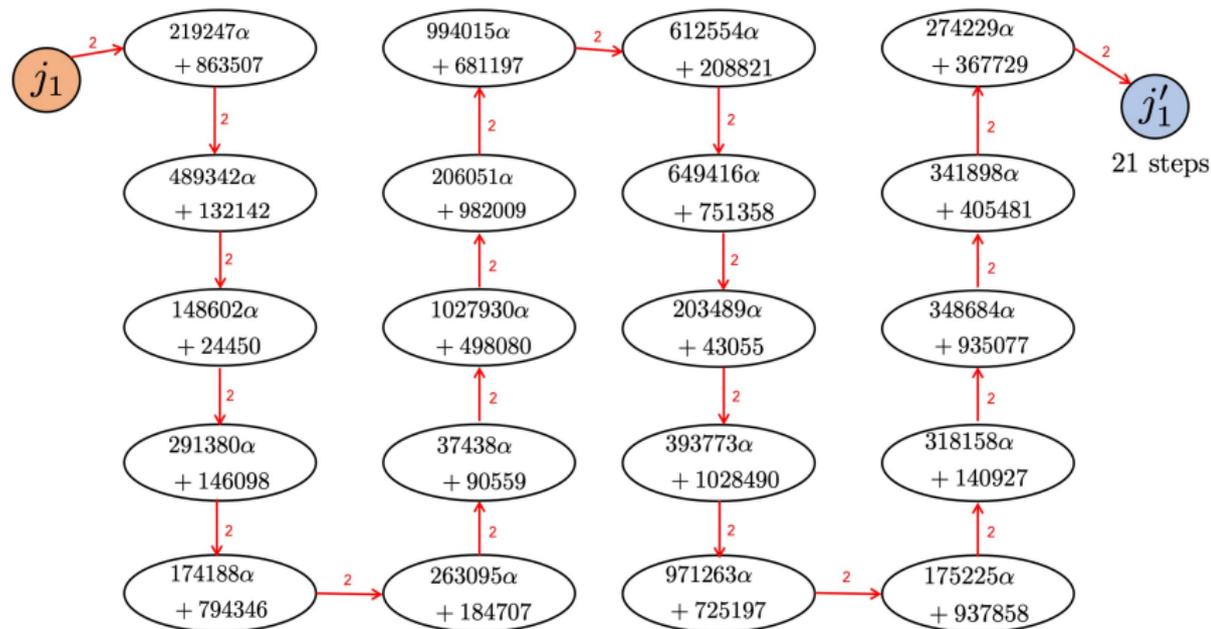
# Worked Example: Solver

Path from  $j_1 = 129007\alpha + 818380$  to subfield node.



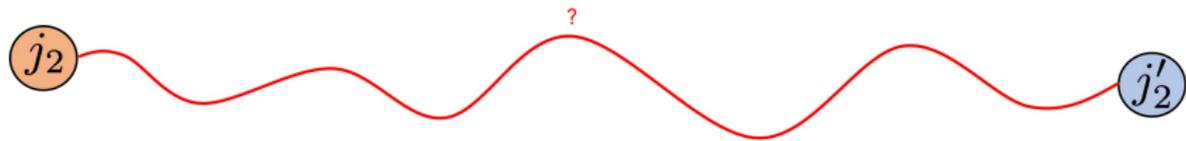
# Worked Example: Solver

Path from  $j_1 = 129007\alpha + 818380$  to subfield node  $j'_1 = 760776$ .



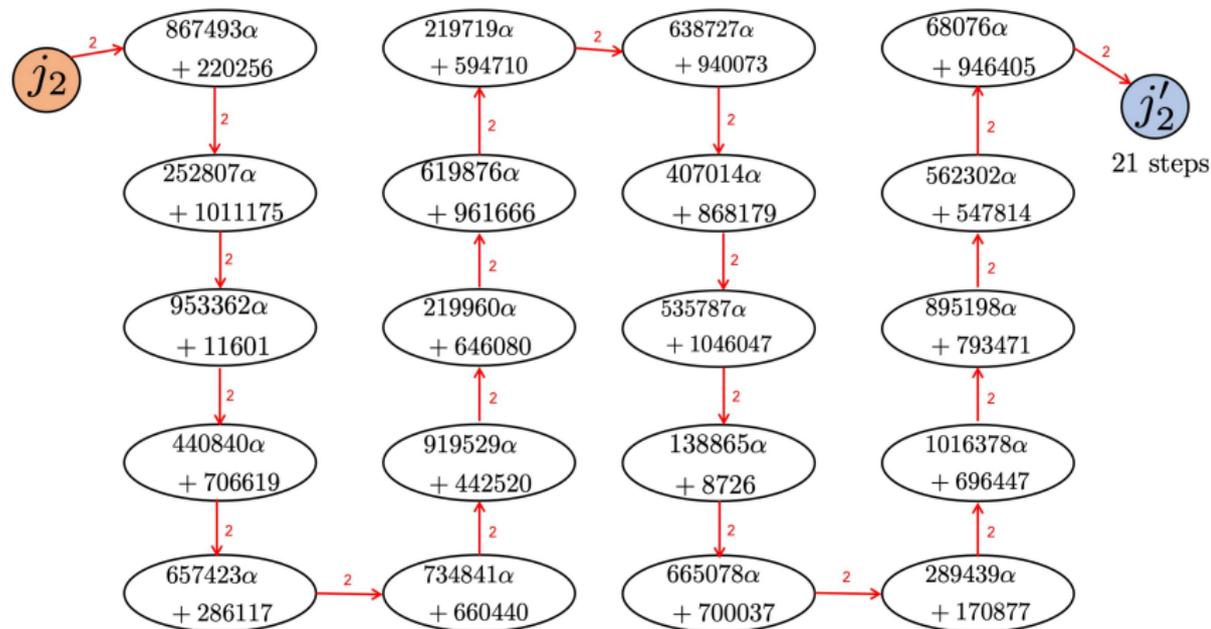
# Worked Example: Solver

Path from  $j_2 = 97589\alpha + 660383$  to subfield node.



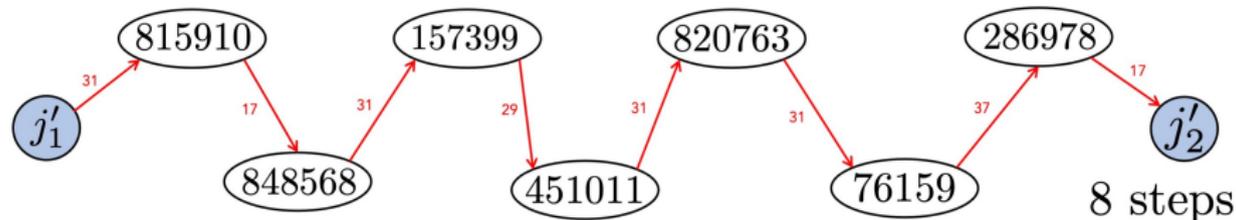
# Worked Example: Solver

Path from  $j_2 = 97589\alpha + 660383$  to subfield node  $j'_2 = 35387$ .



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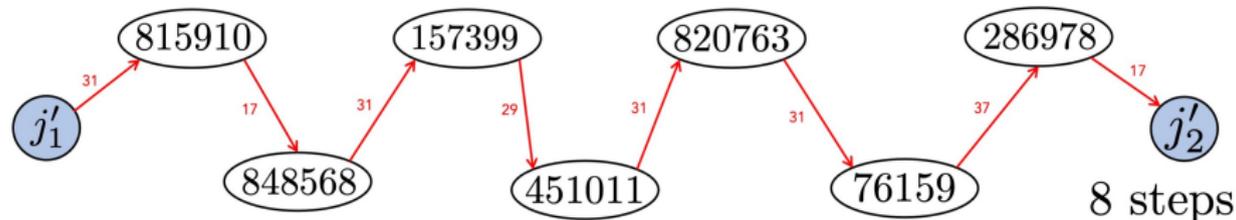
Path between subfield nodes  $j'_1 = 760776$  and  $j'_2 = 35387$ .



We take steps in  $\mathcal{X}(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$  with  $\ell \in \{17, 29, 31, 37\}$ .

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Path between subfield nodes  $j'_1 = 760776$  and  $j'_2 = 35387$ .



We take steps in  $\mathcal{X}(\bar{\mathbb{F}}_p, \ell)$  with  $\ell \in \{17, 29, 31, 37\}$ .

In total, the path has  $21 + 21 + 8 = \mathbf{50}$  steps.

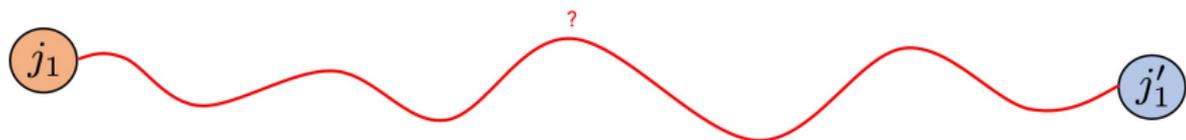
## Worked Example: SuperSolver

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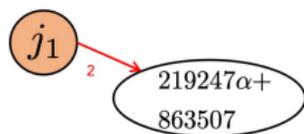
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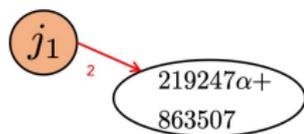
3-isogenous neighbour in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{3,p}(X, 219247\alpha + 863507) = & X^4 + (212814\alpha + 479338)X^3 + (408250\alpha + 920025)X^2 \\ & + (811739\alpha + 93038)X + 942336\alpha + 847782\end{aligned}$$

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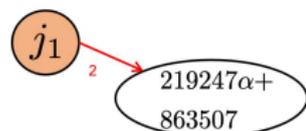
$$g_1 = X^4 + 479338X^3 + 920025X^2 + 93038X + 847782$$

$$g_2 = 425628X^3 + 816500X^2 + 574905X + 836099$$

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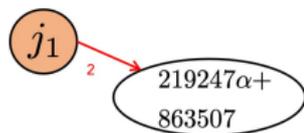
$$g_2 = 425628X^3 + 816500X^2 + 574905X + 836099$$

$$\gcd(g_1, g_2) = 1 \implies \text{no 3-isogenous neighbour in } \mathbb{F}_p$$

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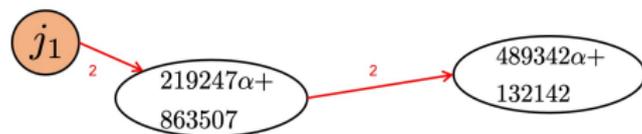
3-isogenous neighbour in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ? No.

Similarly, no 5-isogenous neighbour in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

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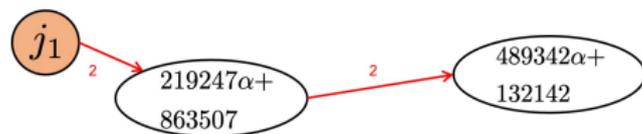


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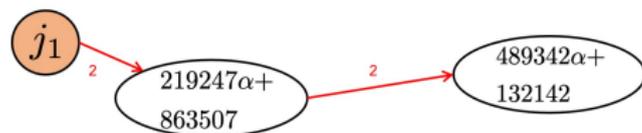
3-isogenous neighbour in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{3,p}(X, 489342\alpha + 132142) = & X^4 + (872004\alpha + 13960)X^3 + (1031755\alpha + 822066)X^2 \\ & + (969683\alpha + 747785)X + 813010\alpha + 255391. \end{aligned}$$

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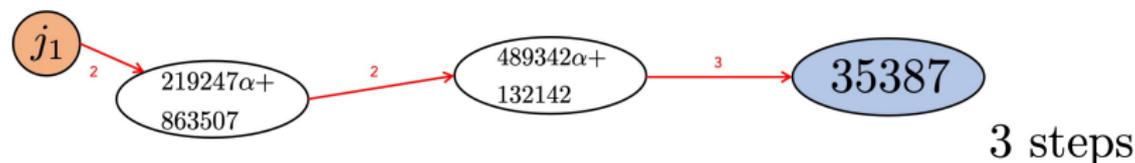
$$g_2 = 695435X^3 + 1014937X^2 + 890793X + 577447$$

$$\gcd(g_1, g_2) = X + 1013186 \implies \text{3-isogenous neighbour in } \mathbb{F}_p \\ -1013186 = 35387$$

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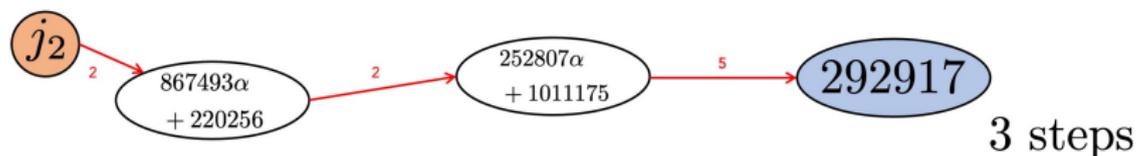
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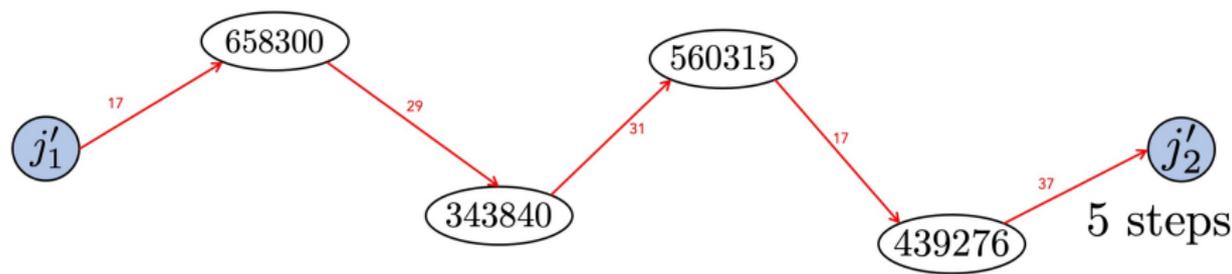
Path from  $j_2 = 97589\alpha + 660383$  to subfield node  $j'_2 = 292917$ .



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Path between subfield nodes  $j'_1 = 35387$  and  $j'_2 = 292917$ .

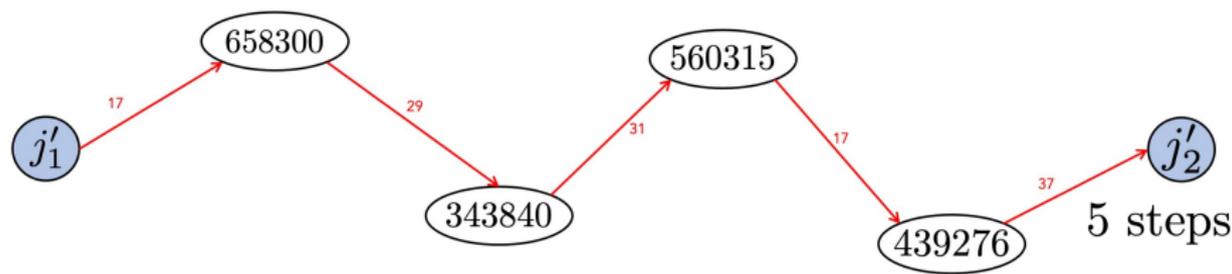


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In total, the path has  $3 + 3 + 5 = \mathbf{11}$  steps.

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**Example:** For  $p = 2^{24} - 3$ , averaging over 5000 pseudo-random supersingular  $j$ -invariants in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ , we get:

Solver used *112878*  $\mathbb{F}_p$  multiplications and walked on *1897* nodes.

SuperSolver used *53900*  $\mathbb{F}_p$  multiplications and walked on *318* nodes.

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**Experiments on cryptographic sized primes and one  $j$ -invariant.** We ran SuperSolver and Solver until the number of  $\mathbb{F}_p$  multiplications used exceeded  $10^8$ , recording the total number of nodes covered.

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## Examples:

For  $p = 2^{50} - 27$ , SuperSolver covers between *3 and 4 times* the number of nodes that Solver does.

For  $p = 2^{800} - 105$ , SuperSolver covers between *18 and 19 times* the number of nodes.

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- We improve the concrete complexity of Delfs–Galbraith - asymptotic complexity is unchanged.
- No direct impact on SIDH and SIKE - there are faster claw-finding algorithms.
- Affects other proposals, such as B-SIDH and SQISign, with Delfs–Galbraith as their best attack.

# Open Problems

Relating to SuperSolver:

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- Can we combine  $\Phi_m(X, j)$  and  $\Phi_n(X, j)$  so that we can detect whether  $j$  has an  $nm$ -isogenous neighbour doing operations with  $\Phi_m$  and  $\Phi_n$  only?

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- What does a *quantum version* of SuperSolver look like?
- Other applications of subfield detection