

# Orienteering on Supersingular Isogeny Volcanoes Using One Endomorphism

Renate Scheidler

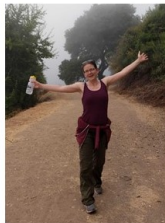


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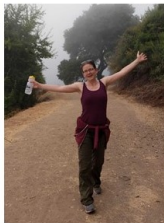
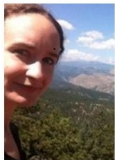
Joint work with **Sarah Arpin**, **Mingjie Chen**, **Kristin E. Lauter**,  
**Katherine E. Stange** and **Ha T. N Tran** (thanks to *Women in Numbers 5*)

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University of Lethbridge  
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# Let the Adventure Begin . . .

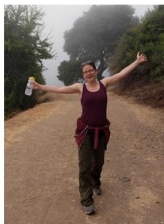


# Let the Adventure Begin ...



## Orienteering

Finding one's way across to checkpoints across varied terrain using only map and compass.



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- Our terrain: **oriented supersingular  $\ell$ -isogeny volcano**
- Our wayfinding tool: **one endomorphism**
- Our task: get to a given **elliptic curve** (which we may or may not reach)

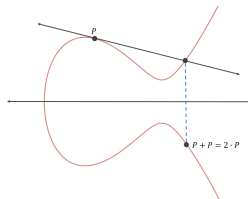
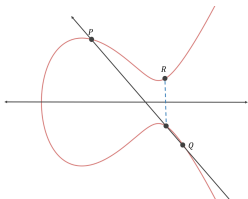


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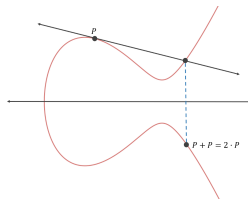
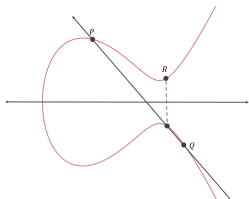
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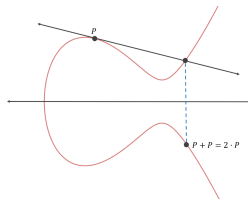
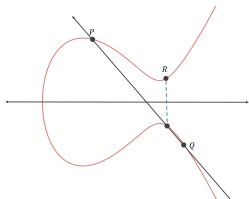


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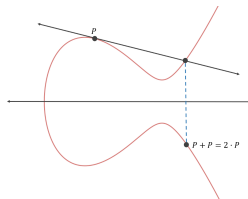
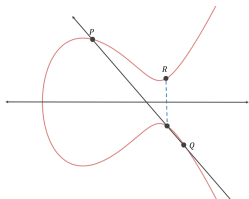
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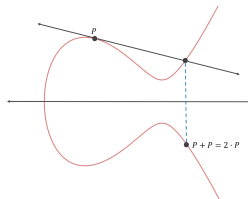
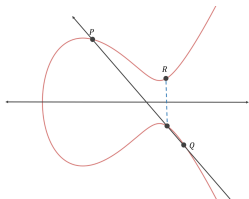
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**Degree** of an isogeny  $\varphi$ : degree as an algebraic map

- If  $p \nmid \deg(\varphi)$ , then  $\deg(\varphi) = \# \ker(\varphi)$
- Every subgroup  $G \subset E(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_q)$  is the kernel of such an isogeny, computable via Vélu’s formulas (Vélu 1971)

## Isogeny Path Finding Problem

Given a set  $\mathcal{L}$  of primes (small, distinct from  $p$ ) and two elliptic curves  $E, E'$  over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , find an  $\mathcal{L}$ -**isogeny path** from  $E$  to  $E'$ ,

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$$\rho : E = E_0 \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} E_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi_2} E_2 \xrightarrow{\varphi_3} \cdots \xrightarrow{\varphi_m} E_m = E'$$

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## Questions

- How hard is this problem computationally?
- How do we solve it?

## Cryptography

- Hash Functions (Charles-Goren-Lauter 2006/2009)
- Cryptographic key agreement  
(Couveignes 1996/2006, Rostovtsev-Stolbunov 2006, De Feo-Jao-Plût 2011 (broken), Castryck-Lange-Martindale-Panny-Renes 2018, Colò-Kohel 2020)
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# Path Finding Algorithms

$E, E'$  ordinary ( $p$ -torsion  $\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$ ):

- Classical:  $\tilde{O}(q^{1/4})$  (Galbraith-Heß-Smart 2002)
- Quantum:  $\exp\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{2}\sqrt{\log q \log \log q}\right)$  (Childs-Jao-Shoukarev 2014)

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Different subexponential algorithms due to Wesolowski 2021 (concurrently)

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$E$  has **complex multiplication** (CM) by  $\mathcal{O}$ :  $\text{End}(E) \cong \mathcal{O}$ .

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**Question:** Can paths be found with one (possibly large) endomorphism?

# $j$ -Invariant

$j$ -invariant of  $E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  ( $a, b \in \mathbb{F}_q$ ,  $p \geq 5$ ):

$$j(E) = 1728 \frac{4a^3}{4a^3 + 27b^2} \in \mathbb{F}_q$$



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- The  $j$ -invariant is invariant under isomorphism (isomorphism = bijective isogeny)

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---

1

2

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For any invertible  $\mathcal{O}$ -ideal  $\mathfrak{a}$  with  $p \nmid \text{Norm}(\mathfrak{a}) = [\mathcal{O} : \mathfrak{a}]$ , the subgroup

$$E[\mathfrak{a}] = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \iota(\mathfrak{a})} \ker(\alpha) = \{P \in E \mid \alpha(P) = 0 \text{ for all } \alpha \in \iota(\mathfrak{a})\}$$

defines an isogeny  $\varphi_{\mathfrak{a}} : E \rightarrow E'$  with kernel  $E[\mathfrak{a}]$  and  $E' \cong E/E[\mathfrak{a}]$ .

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$$\text{Ell}_{\mathcal{O}}(\mathbb{F}_q) = \{j(E) \mid E \text{ an elliptic curve over } \mathbb{F}_q \text{ with } \text{End}(E) \cong \mathcal{O}\}$$

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via

$$[\mathfrak{a}] \star j(E) \mapsto j(E/E[\mathfrak{a}])$$

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$\ell$ -isogeny graph  $\mathcal{G}_\ell(\mathbb{F}_q)$  ( $\ell \neq p$  prime):

- *Vertices*:  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , viewed as the set of isomorphism classes ( $j$ -invariants) of elliptic curves over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  (independent of  $\ell$ )
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where  $[n]P = \underbrace{P + P + \dots + P}_{n \text{ times}}$ .

# Structure of $\mathcal{G}_\ell(\mathbb{F}_q)$ (Kohel 1996)

$\mathcal{G}_\ell(\mathbb{F}_q)$  is a disconnected graph that is almost  $(\ell + 1)$ -regular.

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  - ▶ Every  $\ell$ -isogeny on  $E$  has a kernel that is an order  $\ell$  subgroup of  $E[\ell] \cong \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/\ell\mathbb{Z}$
  - ▶ There are  $\ell + 1$  such subgroups

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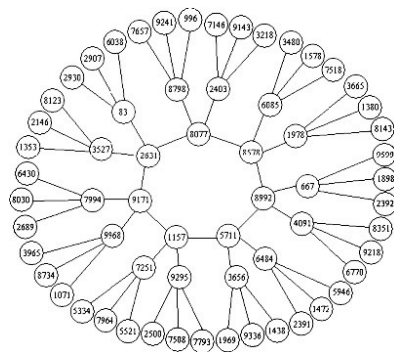
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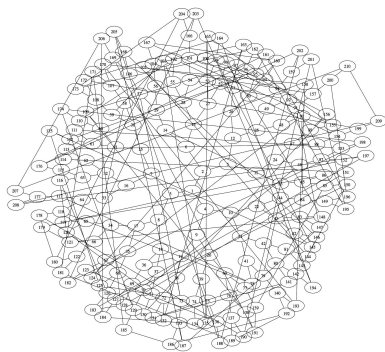


# Two Isogeny Graph Components



Ordinary component  
( $l = 3$ )

Image: Dustin Moody



Supersingular component  
( $l = 2$ )

Image: Dennis Charles

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The class group action significantly facilitates rim navigation!

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- Modular polynomials  $\Phi_\ell(X, Y)$ :  $j, j'$   $\ell$ -isogenous iff  $\Phi_\ell(j, j') = 0$

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**Our work:** path finding with *one* endomorphism (orientation).

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# Oriented Elliptic Curves

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- **Example:** for ordinary curves,  $\text{End}(E) \cong \mathcal{O}$  iff  $E$  is primitively  $\mathcal{O}$ -embedded.

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Write  $\varphi \cdot (E, \iota) = (\varphi(E), \varphi_*(\iota)) = (E', \iota')$ .

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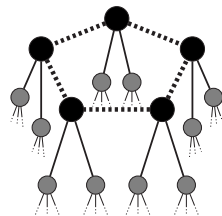
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- Every  $j$ -invariant appears on every volcano **infinitely often**, each time paired with a different orientation
- **$(\ell + 1)$ -regular** except near  $j = 0, 1728$
- Vertices at level  $k$  are **primitively oriented** by an order  $\mathcal{O}_k$  whose conductor has  $\ell$ -adic valuation  $k$



An oriented 3-isogeny volcano

# Orientations from Endomorphisms

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We work with endomorphisms instead of orientations because they are much more concrete and computationally amenable!

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## Proposition

If  $\ell \nmid \theta$ , then  $\varphi$  has the following direction:

- $\uparrow$  if  $\ell^2 \mid \theta'$
- $\rightarrow$  or  $\leftarrow$  (i.e. in the rim) if  $\ell \mid \theta'$  and  $\ell^2 \nmid \theta'$
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## Proposition

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- $\uparrow$  if  $\ell^2 \mid \theta'$
- $\rightarrow$  or  $\leftarrow$  (i.e. in the rim) if  $\ell \mid \theta'$  and  $\ell^2 \nmid \theta'$
- $\downarrow$  if  $\ell \nmid \theta'$

Can also use the eigenvalues of  $\theta$  acting on  $E[\ell]$  for direction finding (but for traversing edges, division by  $\ell$  incurs  $\ell$ -adic precision losses!)

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$$E[\mathfrak{a}] = \bigcap_{\alpha \in \iota(\mathfrak{a})} \ker(\alpha) = \{P \in E \mid \alpha(P) = 0 \text{ for all } \alpha \in \iota(\mathfrak{a})\}$$

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$\text{Cl}(\mathcal{O})$  acts freely<sup>5</sup>, with one or two orbits related via Frobenius  $\pi$ , on

$$\text{SS}_{\mathcal{O}}^{\text{pr}}(p) = \{(j(E), \iota) \mid \iota \text{ is an } \mathcal{O}\text{-primitive orientation on } E\}$$

via  $[\mathfrak{a}] \star j(E) \mapsto j(E/E[\mathfrak{a}])$  (Onuki 2021, ACLSST 2022).

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This action can again be used to walk rims of oriented  $\ell$ -isogeny volcanoes.

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To find an  $\ell$ -isogeny path starting at a curve  $E$  to a curve  $E'$  with known endomorphism ring<sup>6</sup>, given **one** endomorphism  $\theta \in \text{End}(E)$ :

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- 6 Put the segments together to form the path and forget all the orientations

---

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# Example

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Find a 2-isogeny path from  $E$  to  $E'$  over  $\mathbb{F}_{179^2}$  where

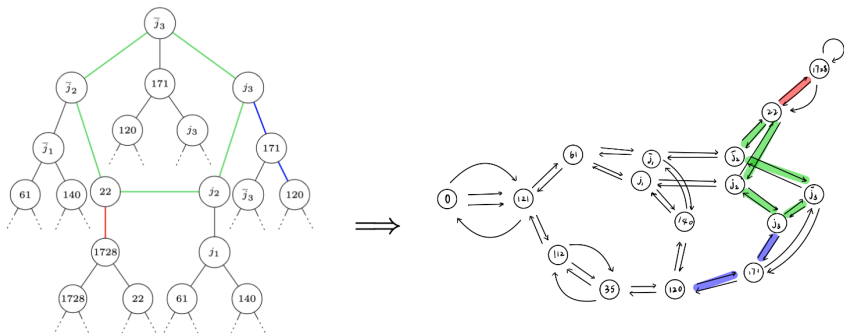
- $E = E_{120} : y^2 = x^3 + (7i + 86)x + (45i + 174)$
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$$(j_1 = 64i + 55, \quad j_2 = 99i + 107, \quad j_3 = 5i + 109)$$

# Step 1: Choose $K$

An endomorphism on  $E_{120}$  is given by  $\theta_{120} \in \text{End}(E)$  as follows:

$$\theta_{120}(x, y) = \left( \frac{(122i + 167)x^{288} + (17i + 68)x^{287} + \dots + 174i + 157}{x^{287} + (78i + 156)x^{286} + \dots + (16i + 54)}, \frac{(69i + 109)x^{431} + (60i + 178)x^{430} + \dots + 98i + 124}{x^{431} + (146i + 53)x^{430} + \dots + (44i + 89)} y \right).$$

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Replacing  $\theta_{120}$  by  $\theta_{120} + [-10]$  yields

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This has the desired normal form and is not divisible by 2, with

$$\text{disc}(\theta_{120}) = 4^2(-47).$$

So we orient  $E$  by  $K = \mathbb{Q}(\sqrt{-47})$ .



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We find that  $\theta_{120}$  is divisible by 2 (in fact by  $2^2$ ), so up we go!

## Step 2: Walk from $E_{120}$ to the Rim

We compute the blue path from 120 to the rim:

$$(E_{120}, \theta_{120}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_{120}} (E_{171}, \theta_{171}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_{171}} (E_{5i+109}, \theta_{5i+109})$$

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So  $(E_{5i+109}, \theta_{5i+109})$  is at the rim.

## Step 3: Orient $E_{1728}$ by $K$

$$\text{End}(E_{1728}) = \mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}[i] + \mathbb{Z} \frac{1 + \pi}{2} + \mathbb{Z} \frac{[i](1 + \pi)}{2},$$

where  $[i](x, y) = (x, iy)$  and  $\pi(x, y) = (x^{179}, y^{179})$

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given by

$$\theta_{1728}(x, y) = \left( \frac{99x^{47} + 22x^{46} + \dots + 77}{x^{46} + 40x^{45} + \dots + 77}, \frac{113ix^{69} + 157ix^{68} + \dots + 63i}{x^{69} + 60x^{68} \dots + 158} y \right).$$

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Replacing  $\theta_{1728}$  by  $\theta_{1728} + [1]$  yields the normal form.

## Step 3: Orient $E_{1728}$ by $K$ (cont'd)

An alternative approach is to find an endomorphism  $\theta'_{1728} \in \text{End}(E_{1728})$  as a product of  $\{2, 3\}$ -power-smooth isogenies:

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and  $\psi_{1728} : E_{1728} \rightarrow E_{171}$  of degree 16 given by

$$\psi_{1728}(x, y) = \left( \frac{x^{16} + (156i + 63)x^{15} + \dots + 56i + 36}{x^{15} + (156i + 63)x^{14} + \dots + (10i + 71)}, \frac{x^{23} + (55i + 95)x^{22} + \dots + 105i + 82}{x^{23} + (55i + 95)x^{22} + \dots + (26i + 87)} \right)^y$$



### Step 3: Orient $E_{1728}$ by $K$ (cont'd)

An alternative approach is to find an endomorphism  $\theta'_{1728} \in \text{End}(E_{1728})$  as a product of  $\{2, 3\}$ -power-smooth isogenies:

$$\theta'_{1728} = \psi_{171}\psi_{1728}, \text{ of degree } 3 \cdot 2^4,$$

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We find that  $\psi_{1728}$ , and hence  $\theta'_{1728}$  is divisible by 2, so up we go!

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We compute the red path from 1728 to the rim:

$$(E_{1728}, \theta'_{1728}) \xrightarrow{\varphi_{1728}} (E_{22}, \theta_{22})$$

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$\theta_{22}$  is not divisible by 2, so  $(E_{22}, \theta_{22})$  is at the rim.



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- ⑤ The isogeny on  $E_{22}$  with kernel  $E_{22}[\mathfrak{l}]$  is  

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 $\varphi_{22} : E_{22} \rightarrow E_{99i+107} : y^2 = x^3 + (26i + 88)x + (141i + 104)$
- 6 The induced endomorphism on  $E_{99i+107}$  is  $\theta_{99i+107} = \frac{1}{2} \varphi_{22} \theta_{22} \widehat{\varphi_{22}}$

## Step 6: Form the Path

With this technique, we can in fact compute the *entire* rim:

$$\begin{aligned} E_{22} &\xrightarrow{\varphi_{22}} E_{99i+107} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{99i+107}} E_{5i+109} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{5i+109}} E_{174i+109} \\ &\xrightarrow{\varphi_{174i+109}} E_{80i+107} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{80i+107}} E'_{22} \cong E_{22} \end{aligned}$$

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A path from 120 to 1728 in  $\mathcal{G}_2(179^2)$  is thus given by

$$E_{120} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{120}} E_{171} \xrightarrow{\varphi_{171}} E_{5i+109} \xrightarrow{\widehat{\varphi_{99i+107}}} 99i+107 \xrightarrow{\widehat{\varphi_{22}}} E_{22} \xrightarrow{\widehat{\varphi_{1728}}} E_{1728}$$



- ① Standard elliptic curve stuff: point arithmetic, computing isogenies via Vélu, endomorphism translates  $\theta + [n]$ , torsion subgroups, isogeny kernels, dual isogenies, evaluating isogenies on  $\ell$ -torsion points, composing isogenies

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*SageMath* code at <https://github.com/SarahArpin/WIN5>

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Runtime improves to  $h_{\Delta'} \text{poly}(B) \log p$  if  $\theta$  is given as a  $B$ -powersmooth product.

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The algorithm uses *vectorization* (Couveignes 2006) to solve the following new problem (not considered in Wesolowski 2022):

## Primitive Orientation Problem

Given a supersingular elliptic curve  $E$  and an endomorphism  $\theta$  on  $E$ , find the imaginary quadratic order  $\mathcal{O}$  so that the orientation  $\iota_\theta$  is  $\mathcal{O}$ -primitive.

## Theorem 3 (ACLSST 2022, WIN5 Proceedings)

For any  $r \geq 3$ , there is a bijection between the following two sets:

- Primitive non-backtracking closed walks of length  $r$  in  $\mathcal{G}_\ell(\mathbb{F}_{p^2})$ ;
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# Rims and Cycles

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- 3 
$$c_r \leq \frac{2\pi e^\gamma \log(4\ell)}{3} \left( \log \log(2\sqrt{\ell}) + \frac{7}{3} + \log r \right) \ell^r + O(\ell^{3r/4} \log r),$$
 as  $r \rightarrow \infty$ , where the  $O$ -constant is explicit.

One endomorphism is enough for supersingular isogeny path finding:

- Classically, run time is subexponential in the degree and linear in a certain class number
- Significant improvement if the endomorphism is power-smooth
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For paths between arbitrary elliptic curves  $E, E'$ :

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Oriented rims of any length  $r$  are in bijection with un-oriented primitive closed walks of length  $r$ .

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**Thank You — Questions (or Answers)?**