

## AN ALGORITHM FOR COMPUTING A SEQUENCE OF RICHELOT ISOGENIES

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ABSTRACT. We show that computation of a sequence of Richelot isogenies from specified supersingular Jacobians of genus-2 curves over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  can be executed in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  or  $\mathbb{F}_{p^4}$ . Based on this, we describe a practical algorithm for computing a Richelot isogeny sequence.

### 1. Introduction

Computing an isogeny between elliptic curves is used in some applications as a new basic cryptographic operation. One example of such an application was proposed in [5] in which a cryptographic hash function from expander graphs consists of computing an sequence of isogenies (see [6] as well). Moreover, there was an attempt to construct a new type of public key cryptosystem using such an operation (see [11]).

We proposed two simple algorithms for practically computing a sequence of 2-isogenies between supersingular elliptic curves [16]. These algorithms include several square root computations, then they might cause computation in a huge extension field. However, we [16] showed that, if the sequence starts at an appropriate elliptic curve (over  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ ), then all the computations of the sequence are performed in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ . This result implies that such computation is practical.

A Richelot isogeny is a natural generalization of 2-isogenies between elliptic curves to that in the genus-2 case (see [1, 2, 3, 12] etc). Then, we investigate and establish analogous results for a sequence of Richelot isogenies between supersingular Jacobian varieties of dimension 2.

Section 2 gives a summary of the results in the genus-1 case given in [16]. Section 3 explains the computation for a Richelot isogeny sequence. Section 4 gives a theoretical basis for the proposed algorithms. Section 5 proposes actually an algorithm for computing a sequence of Richelot isogenies.

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## 2. Previous result: Genus 1 case

Charles et al. [5] proposed an algorithm for computing a sequence of 2-isogenies between supersingular elliptic curves based on Vélú's formulas [14]. In [16], we described simple algorithms based on compact expressions of 2-isogenies, without some redundancy in the description in [5].

Let  $p$  be an odd prime  $> 3$ ,  $\mathbb{F}_p$  the finite field of order  $p$ , and  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  an algebraic closure of  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . For  $0 \leq i \leq n$ , let  $E_i/\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  be a supersingular elliptic curve given by the short Weierstrass normal form  $Y^2 = f_i(X)$  with  $\deg(f_i) = 3$ . Let  $(a_{i,0}, 0)$ ,  $(a_{i,1}, 0)$ , and  $(a_{i,2}, 0)$  be 2-torsion points on  $E_i$ . In [16], we considered the computation of the sequence of 2-isogenies  $\phi_i$  associated to  $(a_{i,0}, 0)$  without backtracking:

$$(1) \quad E_0 \xrightarrow{\phi_0} E_1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \cdots \xrightarrow{\phi_{n-2}} E_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\phi_{n-1}} E_n.$$

Here, we denote  $(a_{i,1}, 0)$  as the 2-torsion point associated with the backtracking, i.e., the dual isogeny  $\hat{\phi}_{i-1}$ . Then, we obtained the following simple recurrence formulas between  $(a_{i,0}, a_{i,1}, a_{i,2})$  and  $(a_{i+1,0}, a_{i+1,1}, a_{i+1,2})$ :

$$(2) \quad \begin{aligned} a_{i+1,1} &= -2a_{i,0} \quad \text{and} \\ a_{i+1,0}, a_{i+1,2} &= a_{i,0} \pm 2[(a_{i,0} - a_{i,1})(a_{i,0} - a_{i,2})]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Here, note that there is a square root term in the RHS of the second formula of (2).

Based on (2), we proposed two *simple* algorithms for a sequence (1). Moreover, we showed that when *appropriately* choosing a starting *supersingular* elliptic curve  $E_0/\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ , all 2-torsions on  $E_i$ , i.e.,  $(a_{i,m}, 0)$ , are defined in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ , and then *all* the computation of the proposed algorithms stays in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$ .

## 3. Preliminaries

We give several basic facts and fix notations.

### 3.1. Hyperelliptic curves of genus 2 and their Jacobians

Let  $p$  be an odd prime  $> 5$ . Then, a hyperelliptic curve of genus 2 over  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$  is given by

$$C : Y^2 = f(X),$$

where  $\deg(f(X)) = 5$  or  $6$  and  $f(X)$  has no multiple zeros. Let the zeros of  $f(X)$  be  $(a_0, \dots, a_4)$ , or  $(a_0, \dots, a_5)$ . Then,  $P_m := (a_m, 0)$  for  $0 \leq m \leq 4$  or  $5$  are called *Weierstrass points* (When  $\deg(f) = 5$ , the infinity point gives another Weierstrass point). Given a hyperelliptic curve  $C$  of genus 2, we can define a group variety  $J_C$ , the Jacobian. A point  $D$  on  $J_C$  is given by a divisor class of  $C$  of degree 0, which is a formal sum of points on  $C$  modulo linear equivalence. When  $\deg(f(X)) = 5$ ,  $D$  is represented by a pair of polynomials,

in other words, as a set,

$$J_C = J_C(\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p) = \{(u(X), v(X)) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[X]^2 \mid u(X) \mid v(X)^2 - f(X), u(X) : \text{monic}, \deg(v(X)) < \deg(u(X)) \leq 2\},$$

where  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[X]$  is the polynomial ring whose coefficient field is  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ . When  $\deg(f(X)) = 6$ , a point in  $J_C$  is given by a pair  $(u(X), v(X))$  s.t.  $u(X) \mid v(X)^2 - f(X)$ ,  $u(X)$ : monic, and  $\deg(v(X)) < \deg(u(X)) \leq 2$ , and a (distance) parameter  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ , where  $0 \leq m \leq 2 - \deg(v(X))$ . Such a representation is called Mumford representation. An addition of divisors naturally gives an algebraic addition law on  $J_C$ . For details, see [9, 10]. Jacobian  $J_C$  is called supersingular if it is isogenous (over  $\overline{\mathbb{F}}_p$ ) to a product of two supersingular elliptic curves, and a curve  $C$  is called supersingular if  $J_C$  is supersingular.

### 3.2. Richelot isogeny

We explain an isogeny of a hyperelliptic curve of genus 2, called *Richelot isogeny* [1, 2, 3, 12] etc. First, we specify the notations hereafter.

Let  $G_j(X) \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p[X]$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2$  be 3 monic polynomials of  $\deg(G_j) \leq 2$  such that  $\prod_{j=0}^2 G_j(X)$  is of degree 5 or 6 and squarefree. Then

$$(3) \quad C : Y^2 = f(X) = d \prod_{j=0}^2 G_j(X),$$

where  $d \in \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p^*$  is a curve of genus 2. By using coefficients  $g_{j,k}$  of  $G_j(X) = \sum_{k=0}^2 g_{j,k} X^k$ , let  $M$  be the matrix  $(g_{j,k})_{0 \leq j,k \leq 2}$ . Here, note that if  $\deg(G_j) = 1$ , then  $g_{j,2} = 0$ . If  $\deg(G_j) = 2$ , we denote the zeros of  $G_j(X)$  by  $a_{2j}$  and  $a_{2j+1}$ , i.e.,  $G_j(X) = (X - a_{2j})(X - a_{2j+1})$ . Hereafter, we consider permutations of  $(a_0, \dots, a_5)$  for the description of the Richelot isogeny. For that purpose, we use a special symbol “ $\infty$ ” to treat the case that  $G_j(X)$  is linear, i.e.,  $G_j(X) = X - a$ , where  $a = a_{2j}$  or  $a_{2j+1}$ . Then, we consider that  $a$  and  $\infty$  are the two zeros of  $G_j(X)$ , and treat permutations of 6 elements  $(a_0, \dots, a_5)$  including  $\infty$ .

Suppose that the determinant of  $M = (g_{j,k})_{0 \leq j,k \leq 2}$  is non-zero. Hereafter, prime “ $\prime$ ” means differentiation by the variable  $X$ . We then define the bracket product  $[G_{j+1}(X), G_{j+2}(X)]$  and its transform to the monic one,  $\tilde{G}_j(X)$ , below.

$$[G_{j+1}(X), G_{j+2}(X)] := G'_{j+1}(X)G_{j+2}(X) - G'_{j+2}(X)G_{j+1}(X),$$

$$\tilde{G}_j(X) := c_j^{-1}[G_{j+1}(X), G_{j+2}(X)],$$

where  $c_j$  is the leading coefficient of  $[G_{j+1}(X), G_{j+2}(X)]$ . Here, and in similar places throughout this paper, we will take addition with respect to the index of  $G$  to mean addition modulo 3. Then, the degree of  $\prod_{j=0}^2 \tilde{G}_j(X)$  is 5 or 6 [12]. Let  $\tilde{f}(X) := \tilde{d} \prod_{j=0}^2 \tilde{G}_j(X)$ , where  $\tilde{d} := d \cdot c_0 c_1 c_2 \cdot \det(M)^{-1}$ . Using  $\tilde{f}(X)$ , we

then obtain a curve of genus 2

$$(4) \quad \tilde{C} : Y^2 = \tilde{f}(X) = \tilde{d} \prod_{j=0}^2 \tilde{G}_j(X) \quad \text{with} \quad \tilde{d} := d \cdot c_0 c_1 c_2 \cdot \det(M)^{-1}.$$

The curve  $\tilde{C}$  is called a *Richelot dual* of  $C$ . Here, we call the above correspondence *Richelot operator*  $\mathcal{R}$  according to B. Smith [12].

$$\mathcal{R} : (G_0(X), G_1(X), G_2(X), d) \mapsto (\tilde{G}_0(X), \tilde{G}_1(X), \tilde{G}_2(X), \tilde{d}).$$

However, this  $\mathcal{R}$  is slightly different from that in [12].

Associated with a Weierstrass point  $P_0 = (a_0, 0)$ , the *Richelot isogeny* is given by

$$(5) \quad \begin{aligned} \phi : J_C &\rightarrow J_{\tilde{C}} \\ D = [(x, y) - P_0] &\mapsto \phi(D) = [(z_1, t_1) - (z_2, -t_2)], \end{aligned}$$

where  $[\cdot]$  means linear equivalence class,  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are the zeros with respect to  $z$  of

$$U_x(z) = \sum_{k=0}^2 U_{x,k} z^k := G_1(x) \tilde{G}_1(z) + G_2(x) \tilde{G}_2(z),$$

and  $t_\ell$  satisfies

$$(6) \quad yt_\ell = \sum_{k=0}^2 V_{x,k} z_\ell^k,$$

where  $\sum_{k=0}^2 V_{x,k} z_\ell^k := dG_1(x) \tilde{G}_1(z_\ell)(x - z_\ell)$  for  $\ell = 1, 2$ . We note that  $(z_1, t_1)$  and  $(z_2, t_2)$  are points on  $\tilde{C}$ . The kernel of  $\phi$  is explicitly given by the Weierstrass points, and it is isomorphic to  $(\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^2$ . For details, see [1, 12].

### 3.3. A sequence of Richelot isogenies

Let  $C$  be given by (3). Richelot isogenies from  $J_C$  are determined by splitting  $(G_0(X), G_1(X), G_2(X))$  of  $f(X)$ . This corresponds to a splitting of the zero-points of  $f(X)$  into three pairs, i.e.,  $(a_0, a_1)$ ,  $(a_2, a_3)$ , and  $(a_4, a_5)$ . Therefore, the number of Richelot isogenies from  $C$  is  $\binom{6}{2} \cdot \binom{4}{2} / 3! = 15$ . We consider computing a walk consisting of Richelot isogenies

$$(7) \quad J_0 \xrightarrow{\phi_0} J_1 \xrightarrow{\phi_1} \dots \xrightarrow{\phi_{n-2}} J_{n-1} \xrightarrow{\phi_{n-1}} J_n$$

without backtracking, i.e.,  $\phi_{i+1}$  is not the dual of  $\phi_i$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n-2$ . Hence, at each step, there exist  $14 = 15 - 1$  possible choices to go forward. In (7),  $J_i$  is the Jacobian of  $C_i$ , which is given below.

$$(8) \quad C_i / \overline{\mathbb{F}}_p : Y^2 = f_i(X) = d_i \prod_{j=0}^2 G_{i,j}(X),$$

where

$$G_{i,j}(X) = \sum_{k=0}^2 g_{i,j,k} X^k = \begin{cases} (X - a_{i,2j})(X - a_{i,2j+1}) & \text{if } \deg(G_{i,j}) = 2, \\ X - a_{i,2j} \text{ or } X - a_{i,2j+1} & \text{if } \deg(G_{i,j}) = 1, \end{cases}$$

where  $d_i \neq 0$  and  $\det(M_i) \neq 0$  for  $M_i := (g_{i,j,k})_{0 \leq j,k \leq 2}$ . For the Richelot dual  $\tilde{C}_{i+1}$  (after applying  $\phi_i$  to  $J_{C_i}$ ), we use similar notation  $\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X)$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{i+1,m}$ , and  $\tilde{d}_{i+1}$  for the corresponding ones, respectively.

Here, we note that, if  $\det(M_i) = 0$ , then  $J_{C_i}$  has an isogeny to a product of elliptic curves  $E_1 \times E_2$  [12]. We do not consider such special cases in the presentation of sequence computation hereafter.

From the above, we have 14 possibilities to proceed to the next Jacobian at  $i \geq 1$ . When  $i = 0$ , we choose 14 possibilities from  $J_0$  at the beginning. We then associate a walk data  $\omega = b_0 b_1 \cdots b_{n-1} \in \mathcal{W} = \{0, \dots, 13\}^n$  with a walk (7). Then, the correspondence is bijective as indicated below.

$$\mathcal{W} = \{0, \dots, 13\}^n \longleftrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{a sequence (7) of Richelot isogenies } \phi_i \\ \text{starting from } J_0 \text{ without backtracking} \end{array} \right\},$$

where (7) starts from one of the candidate Jacobians chosen as above. The goal is to compute the  $C_n$  from  $C_0$  and a walk data  $\omega \in \mathcal{W} = \{0, \dots, 13\}^n$ .

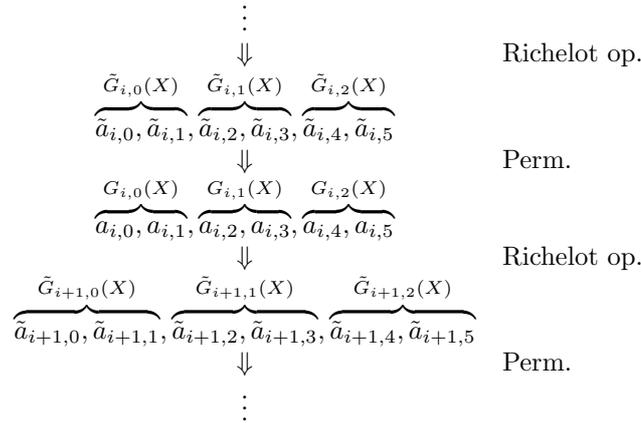
For  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ , the  $i$ -th step in (7) for computing  $\phi_i$  consists of the following 2 procedures

- 1: Permutation of the zero-points of  $f_i(X)$ ,
- 2: Isogeny calculation by the Richelot operator, i.e.,

$$(9) \quad \tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X) = c_{i,j}^{-1} [G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)],$$

where  $c_{i,j}$  is the leading coefficient of  $[G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)]$ .

The flow of the computation is given below.



Here, one of  $\{\tilde{a}_{i,m}\}$  and one of  $\{a_{i,m}\}$  are  $\infty$  when  $\deg(\tilde{f}_i) = 5$  ( $= \deg(f_i)$ ). Similarly, one of  $\{\tilde{a}_{i+1,m}\}$  is  $\infty$  when  $\deg(\tilde{f}_{i+1}) = 5$  ( $= \deg(f_{i+1})$ ). We give an explicit expression of  $\tilde{a}_{i+1,m}$  by  $a_{i,0}, \dots, a_{i,5}$  in Section 5.2.

To permute 6 zero-points of  $\tilde{G}_{i,0}(X), \tilde{G}_{i,1}(X)$  and  $\tilde{G}_{i,2}(X)$ , we must solve the quadratic equations  $\tilde{G}_{i,j}(X) = 0$  for  $j = 0, 1, 2$ . Hence, square root computations are the most time-consuming as in the genus 1 case. See Section 2 and [16].

**4. Defining field of Weierstrass points**

Since we take square roots at each step in (7), in the worst case, one might end up doing arithmetic in a prohibitively huge finite field, e.g.,  $\mathbb{F}_{p^{2^n}}$ , even if we start at a curve over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . However, here we show that if we choose a starting point appropriately, then all the computations for (7) stay in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  or  $\mathbb{F}_{p^4}$ . Actually, we prove such computations are performed in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  or  $\mathbb{F}_{p^4}$  by starting a sequence at the following two types of hyperelliptic curves.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(Type I)} \quad C^I/\mathbb{F}_p : Y^2 &= X^5 + \alpha \quad \text{for } p \equiv 4 \pmod{5}, \\ \text{(Type II)} \quad C^{II}/\mathbb{F}_p : Y^2 &= X^5 + \alpha \quad \text{for } p \equiv 2, 3 \pmod{5}. \end{aligned}$$

Hereafter, we denote  $r$  to be 2 for Type I curves and 4 for Type II curves. We let  $q$  be  $p^r$ . Using this notation, Theorem 4.1 shows that all computations stay in  $\mathbb{F}_q$  when we start at  $J_{C^I}$  or  $J_{C^{II}}$ .

**4.1. The main theorem**

**Theorem 4.1.** *If a sequence of Richelot isogenies (7) starts at  $J_{C^I}$  or  $J_{C^{II}}$ , then the following holds for all  $i$ :*

$$(10) \quad J_i(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/(q^{\frac{1}{2}} + 1)\mathbb{Z})^4.$$

*In particular, all Weierstrass points on  $C_i$  are defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  and all the computations of the sequence (7) are performed in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .*

*Proof.* First, note that if (10) holds for all  $i$ , then  $J_i(\mathbb{F}_q)[2] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^4$  because  $p$  is an odd prime. From Lemma 4.2, then all the computation of (7) are performed in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

Therefore, we must show the group structure (10) of  $J_i(\mathbb{F}_q)$ . We show this by induction. The following Lemma 4.3 shows that (10) holds at the starting point  $J_0 = J_{C^I}$  or  $J_{C^{II}}$ . In addition, Lemma 4.4 shows that (10) holds for *all*  $i$  inductively. □

**Lemma 4.2.** *If  $J_i(\mathbb{F}_q)[2] \cong (\mathbb{Z}/2\mathbb{Z})^4$ , the Richelot isogeny  $\phi_i$  in (7) is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .*

**Lemma 4.3.** *For the curves  $C^I$  and  $C^{II}$ ,*

$$(11) \quad J_{C^I}(\mathbb{F}_{p^2}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/(p+1)\mathbb{Z})^4 \quad \text{and}$$

$$(12) \quad J_{C^{II}}(\mathbb{F}_{p^4}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/(p^2+1)\mathbb{Z})^4.$$

**Lemma 4.4.** *If (10) holds for  $J_i$  in (7), then  $J_i(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong J_{i+1}(\mathbb{F}_q)$  as a group.*

We next prove Lemmas 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4.

**4.2. Proofs of Lemmas 4.2, 4.3 and 4.4**

*Proof of Lemma 4.2.* All Weierstrass points  $(a_{i,m}, 0)$  of  $C_i$ , where  $m = 0, \dots, 5$ , are defined in  $\mathbb{F}_q$  from the assumption of Lemma 4.2. Therefore, all the coefficients of  $G_{i,j}(X)$  and  $\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X)$ , which are defined in Section 3.3, are in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Therefore, all coefficients  $U_{x,k}$  in (6) and  $V_{x,k}$  in (6) for  $k = 0, 1, 2$ , are in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x]$ .

Because  $z_1$  and  $z_2$  are two zeros of  $U_x$  in (6), the  $u$ -polynomial of the Mumford representation of  $\phi(D)$  in (5) is equal to  $U_x$  up to a constant multiple, and it is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Let  $V(z) := \sum_{k=0}^2 (V_{x,k}/y) z^k$ . Then, from (6),  $t_\ell = V(z_\ell) \in \mathbb{F}_q(y)[x]$  for  $\ell = 1, 2$ . The  $v$ -polynomial of the Mumford representation of  $\phi(D)$  in (5) is given by the remainder of  $V(z)$  by the  $u$ -polynomial, which is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . Hence, all the coefficients of the  $v$ -polynomial are also in  $\mathbb{F}_q(x, y)$ .

This means that the isogeny  $\phi_i$  is defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ . □

We denote the characteristic polynomial of the  $p^r$ -th power Frobenius on a Jacobian  $J/\mathbb{F}_p$  by  $h_r(T)$ . Let the characteristic polynomial  $h_1(T)$  be given by  $h_1(T) = \prod_{\ell=1}^2 (T - \pi_\ell)(T - \bar{\pi}_\ell)$ .

Lemma 4.3 follows from the following Facts 4.5, 4.6 and 4.7. Fact 4.5 gives  $h_1(T)$  for  $J_{C^I}/\mathbb{F}_p$  and  $J_{C^U}/\mathbb{F}_p$ . Fact 4.6 gives a fundamental relation between  $h_1(T)$  and  $h_r(T)$ . Fact 4.7 determines the group structure of  $\mathbb{F}_q$ -rational points of Jacobians from the characteristic polynomials  $h_r(T)$ .

*Proof of Lemma 4.3.* We first show (11) for  $J_{C^I}$ . Without loss of generality, we let  $\pi_1 = \pi_2 = \sqrt{-p} \in \mathbb{C}$  from (13) in Fact 4.5. Then, all  $\pi_1^2 = \pi_2^2 = \bar{\pi}_1^2 = \bar{\pi}_2^2 = -p$ , i.e.,  $h_2(T) = (T + p)^4$  from Fact 4.6. Fact 4.7 shows that the group structure is  $J_{C^I}(\mathbb{F}_{p^2}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/(p + 1)\mathbb{Z})^4$ .

We next show (12) for  $J_{C^U}$ . Without loss of generality, we let  $\pi_1 = \zeta_8\sqrt{p}$  and  $\pi_2 = \zeta_8^3\sqrt{p} \in \mathbb{C}$ , where  $\zeta_8$  is a primitive 8-th root of unity, from (14) in Fact 4.5. Then, all  $\pi_1^4 = \pi_2^4 = \bar{\pi}_1^4 = \bar{\pi}_2^4 = -p^2$ , i.e.,  $h_4(T) = (T + p^2)^4$  from Fact 4.6, and  $J_{C^U}(\mathbb{F}_{p^4}) \cong (\mathbb{Z}/(p^2 + 1)\mathbb{Z})^4$  from Fact 4.7. □

**Fact 4.5** ([8, Prop. 1.13], [7, Example 5.1]). *Two curves  $C^I$  and  $C^{II}$  are supersingular, and  $h_1(T)$  for each curve is given by*

- (13) (I)  $h_1(T) = (T^2 + p)^2$  and
- (14) (II)  $h_1(T) = T^4 + p^2$ ,

*respectively.*

**Fact 4.6** ([4, Ch.14 Theorem 14.17]). *Let the characteristic polynomial  $h_1(T)$  be given by the following:*

$$h_1(T) = \prod_{\ell=1}^2 (T - \pi_\ell)(T - \bar{\pi}_\ell),$$

where  $\pi_\ell$  in  $\mathbb{C}$  for  $\ell = 1, 2$  s.t.  $|\pi_\ell| = \sqrt{p}$ . Then, the characteristic polynomials  $h_r(T)$  are given by

$$h_r(T) = \prod_{\ell=1}^2 (T - \pi_\ell^r)(T - \bar{\pi}_\ell^r).$$

**Fact 4.7** ([15, Theorem 2]). *Let  $q$  be  $p^r$ ,  $A$  a supersingular abelian surface over  $\mathbb{F}_q$ , and  $h_r(T)$  the characteristic polynomial of  $A/\mathbb{F}_q$ . Suppose that  $h_r(T)$  has the decomposition  $h_r(T) = \prod_{\ell=1}^\eta w_\ell(T)^{e_\ell}$ , where  $w_\ell(T)$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -irreducible for  $\ell = 1, \dots, \eta$ . Then,*

$$A(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong \bigoplus_{\ell=1}^\eta (\mathbb{Z}/|w_\ell(1)|\mathbb{Z})^{e_\ell}$$

except for  $A$  in the following cases:

- (i)  $h_r(T) = (T^2 - q)^2$ ,
- (ii)  $r$  is odd and  $h_r(T) = (T^2 + q)^2$ .

Lemma 4.4 follows from Facts 4.7, 4.8 and Lemma 4.2. Fact 4.8 is (a part of) a famous classification theorem given by Tate [13].

*Proof of Lemma 4.4.* Since  $\phi_i$  are defined over  $\mathbb{F}_q$  from Lemma 4.2, the characteristic polynomials of the  $q$ -th power Frobenius,  $h_r(T)$ , are the same for  $J_i$  and  $J_{i+1}$ . Because the polynomial  $h_r(T)$  is  $(T + q^{\frac{1}{2}})^4$ , we conclude that  $J_{i+1}(\mathbb{F}_q) \cong J_i(\mathbb{F}_q)$  from Fact 4.7. □

**Fact 4.8** ([13, Theorem 1, a part of (c)]). *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be abelian varieties over a finite field  $\mathbb{F}$ , and let  $h_A$  and  $h_B$  be characteristic polynomials of their Frobenius endomorphisms relative to  $\mathbb{F}$ . Then, the following statements equivalent:*

- (i)  $A$  and  $B$  are  $\mathbb{F}$ -isogenous.
- (ii)  $h_A = h_B$ .

### 5. Algorithm for computing a sequence

In this section, we propose an algorithm for computing a sequence of Richelot isogenies (Algorithms 1 and 2). We give some notations for that. Using the notation (8), let  $\xi_i$  be a tuple of 6  $a_{i,m}$ 's, namely,  $\xi_i = (a_{i,0}, \dots, a_{i,5})$  (possibly including  $\infty$ ) and let  $S_i$  be the data consisting of  $\xi_i$  and the multiplicative factor  $d_i$ , which determines the defining equation of  $C_i$ , that is,

$$S_i := (\xi_i, d_i) = ((a_{i,0}, \dots, a_{i,5}), d_i).$$



brackets  $[G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)]$ , then we describe the effect in Section 5.2. We treat the update of  $\tilde{d}$  using the latter factor in Section 5.3.

**5.2.1. Case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+1}) = \deg(G_{i,j+2}) = 2$ .** From (9), zeros  $\tilde{a}_{2j}$  and  $\tilde{a}_{2j+1}$  of  $\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X)$  are related to zeros  $a_{2(j+1)}, a_{2(j+1)+1}, a_{2(j+2)}$ , and  $a_{2(j+2)+1}$  of  $G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)$  as follows:

$$(16) \quad [G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)] = G'_{i,j+1}(X)G_{i,j+2}(X) - G'_{i,j+2}(X)G_{i,j+1}(X) \\ = (a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)} - a_{2(j+2)+1})X^2 \\ - 2(a_{2(j+1)}a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)}a_{2(j+2)+1})X \\ + a_{2(j+1)}a_{2(j+1)+1}(a_{2(j+2)} + a_{2(j+2)+1}) \\ - a_{2(j+2)}a_{2(j+2)+1}(a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1}).$$

Let  $\vartheta_j := a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)} - a_{2(j+2)+1}$ ,  $\lambda_{j+1} := a_{2(j+1)}a_{2(j+1)+1}$ , and  $\lambda_{j+2} := a_{2(j+2)}a_{2(j+2)+1}$ .

**Subcase that  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 2$ .** If  $\vartheta_j \neq 0$ ,  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 2$  and then (16) is equal to

$$\vartheta_j \tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X) = \vartheta_j (X - \tilde{a}_{2j})(X - \tilde{a}_{2j+1}).$$

A quarter of the discriminant of the quadratic  $[G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)]$  is

$$\delta_j = (a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)})(a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)+1}) \\ (a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)})(a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)+1}).$$

That is,  $\delta_j$  is given by the product of the differences between the zero-points of  $G_{i,j+1}(X)$ , i.e.,  $a_{2(j+1)}$  and  $a_{2(j+1)+1}$ , and the zero-points of  $G_{i,j+2}(X)$ , i.e.,  $a_{2(j+2)}$  and  $a_{2(j+2)+1}$ .

Hence,  $\tilde{a}_{2j}$  and  $\tilde{a}_{2j+1}$  are given by

$$\tilde{a}_{2j}, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} = \frac{\lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_{j+2} \pm \delta_j^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\vartheta_j}.$$

The multiplicative factor  $\tilde{d}$  is updated to  $\tilde{d} \cdot \vartheta_j$ .

**Subcase that  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 1$ .** If  $\vartheta_j = 0$ , (16) is linear, i.e.,  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 1$ . Then, the root of  $\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X) = 0$ ,  $\tilde{a}_{2j}$ , is given by

$$\tilde{a}_{2j} = \frac{a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1}}{2}$$

since  $a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1} = a_{2(j+2)} + a_{2(j+2)+1}$ .

The leading coefficient of  $\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X)$  is  $-2(\lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_{j+2})$ . Then  $\tilde{d}$  is updated to  $-2(\lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_{j+2}) \cdot \tilde{d}$ .

**5.2.2. Case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+1}) = 1$  or  $\deg(G_{i,j+2}) = 1$ .** First, we consider the case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+1}) = 1$ , i.e.,  $G_{i,j+1}(X)$  is linear. We obtain formulas for  $\tilde{a}_{2j}, \tilde{a}_{2j+1}$  as follows: Let  $G_{i,j+1}(X) = X - a_{2(j+1)}$ ,  $G_{i,j+2}(X) = (X - a_{2(j+2)})(X - a_{2(j+2)+1})$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & [G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)] \\ &= -\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X) \\ &= -[X^2 - 2a_{2(j+1)}X + (a_{2(j+2)} + a_{2(j+2)+1})a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)}a_{2(j+2)+1}]. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta_j := (a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)})(a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)+1})$ . Then, we obtain

$$\tilde{a}_{2j}, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} = a_{2(j+1)} \pm \delta_j^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Next, we consider the case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+2}) = 1$ . Let  $G_{i,j+1}(X) = (X - a_{2(j+1)})(X - a_{2(j+1)+1})$ ,  $G_{i,j+2}(X) = X - a_{2(j+2)}$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} & [G_{i,j+1}(X), G_{i,j+2}(X)] \\ &= \tilde{G}_{i+1,j}(X) \\ &= X^2 - 2a_{2(j+2)}X + (a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1})a_{2(j+2)} - a_{2(j+1)}a_{2(j+1)+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\delta_j := (a_{2(j+2)} - a_{2(j+1)})(a_{2(j+2)} - a_{2(j+1)+1})$ . Then, we obtain

$$\tilde{a}_{2j}, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} = a_{2(j+2)} \pm \delta_j^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$

For the former case,  $\tilde{d}$  is updated to  $-\tilde{d}$  and for the latter case,  $\tilde{d}$  remains unchanged.

**5.3. Final update of the multiplicative factor**

**5.3.1. Case that  $\deg(f_i) = 6$ .** In this case,  $\tilde{d}$  is updated to  $\tilde{d} \cdot \det(M_i)^{-1}$ , where

$$M_i := \begin{pmatrix} a_0a_1 & -(a_0 + a_1) & 1 \\ a_2a_3 & -(a_2 + a_3) & 1 \\ a_4a_5 & -(a_4 + a_5) & 1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Then,  $\det(M_i)$  is equal to the determinant of the following  $2 \times 2$  matrix:

$$M_i^0 := \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 - \lambda_0 & \vartheta_2 \\ \lambda_2 - \lambda_0 & -\vartheta_1 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We see that  $\vartheta_1 + \vartheta_2 = -\vartheta_0$  by direct calculation. Hence,  $\det(M_i^0) = -\sum_{j=1}^2 \vartheta_j (\lambda_j - \lambda_0) = -\sum_{j=1}^2 \vartheta_j \lambda_j + (\vartheta_1 + \vartheta_2)\lambda_0 = -\sum_{j=1}^2 \vartheta_j \lambda_j - \vartheta_0 \lambda_0 = -\sum_{j=0}^2 \lambda_j \vartheta_j$ . That is,

$$(17) \quad \det(M_i) = -\sum_{j=0}^2 \lambda_j \vartheta_j.$$

**5.3.2. Case that  $\deg(f_i) = 5$ .** Assume that  $\deg(G_{i,j_0}) = 1$ ,  $a_{m_0}$  is the zero of  $G_{i,j_0}(X)$ , and  $a_{m_1} = \infty$ . Let  $\lambda_{j_0+1} := a_{2(j_0+1)}a_{2(j_0+1)+1}$ ,  $\lambda_{j_0+2} := a_{2(j_0+2)}a_{2(j_0+2)+1}$ , and  $\vartheta_{j_0} := a_{2(j_0+1)} + a_{2(j_0+1)+1} - a_{2(j_0+2)} - a_{2(j_0+2)+1}$ . Then,  $\tilde{d}$  is updated to  $\tilde{d} \cdot \det(M_i)^{-1}$ , where  $M_i$  is constructed from the coefficients of  $G_{i,0}(X)$ ,  $G_{i,1}(X)$ , and  $G_{i,2}(X)$ . Here, since  $G_{i,j_0}(X)$  is linear, the quadratic coefficient of it is 0. From direct computation,

$$\det(M_i) = a_{m_0}\vartheta_{j_0} - \lambda_{j_0+1} + \lambda_{j_0+2}.$$

Then, if we let  $\lambda_{j_0} := -a_{m_0}$ ,  $\vartheta_{j_0+1} := 1$  and  $\vartheta_{j_0+2} := -1$ , we see that (17) holds similar to the case that  $\deg(f_i) = 6$ .

**5.4. Description of the algorithm**

Algorithm 1 gives the computation of a Richelot isogeny sequence, and Algorithm 2 gives the computation of a Richelot isogeny. Algorithm 2 computes  $\tilde{S}_{i+1}$  from  $S_i$  according to the explicit formulas for  $\tilde{a}_0, \dots, \tilde{a}_5$  and  $\tilde{d}$  given in Sections 5.2 and 5.3.

Algorithm 1 iterates Algorithm 2  $n$ -times, and uses the `Perm` function to choose the next edge according to  $\omega$ . Step 3 of Algorithm 1 checks whether  $\tilde{d}_i = \perp$  or not, and if so, then Algorithm 1 also returns  $\perp$  (See Section 3.3). We observed that such split cases rarely occur when starting at  $J_{CI}$  or  $J_{CU}$  and  $p \geq 2^{160}$ .

We fix a branch of square roots,  $\delta^{\frac{1}{2}}$ , in Algorithm 2 as follows: Fix  $\tau \in \mathbb{F}_q$  s.t.  $\mathbb{F}_q = \mathbb{F}_p[\tau] = \bigoplus_{\ell=0}^{r-1} \mathbb{F}_p \tau^\ell \cong (\mathbb{F}_p)^r$  as an  $\mathbb{F}_p$ -vector space. Then,  $\delta^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is defined as the max of the two branches using a natural lexicographic order of  $\mathbb{F}_q \cong (\mathbb{F}_p)^r$ .

**5.5. Cost of a Richelot operator computation**

We give the cost of the computation of *one* Richelot isogeny, and we explain the cost of the dominant case that all  $G_j(X)$  and  $\tilde{G}_j(X)$  are quadratics. Then, we see that from Algorithm 2, the total cost is 25 multiplications, 4 inversions, and 3 square root computations in  $\mathbb{F}_q$ .

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**Algorithm 1** RIsogSeq : Computing a sequence of Richelot isogenies

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**Input :**  $\tilde{S}_0$  and walk data  $\omega = b_0 \cdots b_{n-1}$ .

**Output :**  $\tilde{S}_n$  or  $\perp$  if split case.

- 1: **for**  $i \leftarrow 0$  to  $n - 1$  **do**
  - 2:    $(\tilde{\xi}_i, \tilde{d}_i) \leftarrow \tilde{S}_i$ ,  $\xi_i \leftarrow \text{Perm}(\tilde{\xi}_i, b_i)$ .    $\{ /* \text{Perm}_i(\tilde{\xi}_i) */ \}$
  - 3:   **if**  $\tilde{d}_i = \perp$  **then**  $\{ /* \text{split case} */ \}$
  - 4:     **return**  $\perp$ .
  - 5:   **end if**
  - 6:    $S_i \leftarrow (\xi_i, \tilde{d}_i)$ ,  $\tilde{S}_{i+1} \leftarrow \text{RIsog}(S_i)$ .
  - 7: **end for**
  - 8: **return**  $\tilde{S}_n$ .
-

**Algorithm 2** RIsog : Computing a Richelot isogeny

---

**Input :**  $S_i = ((a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4, a_5), d)$ .  
**Output :**  $\tilde{S}_{i+1} = ((\tilde{a}_0, \tilde{a}_1, \tilde{a}_2, \tilde{a}_3, \tilde{a}_4, \tilde{a}_5), \tilde{d})$ .

- 1:  $\tilde{d} \leftarrow d$ .
- 2: **for**  $j \leftarrow 0$  to 2 **do** { /\* calc. of  $\lambda_j$  \*/ }
- 3:   **if**  $a_{2j} = \infty$  **then**
- 4:      $\lambda_j \leftarrow -a_{2j+1}$ .
- 5:   **else if**  $a_{2j+1} = \infty$  **then**
- 6:      $\lambda_j \leftarrow -a_{2j}$ .
- 7:   **else**
- 8:      $\lambda_j \leftarrow a_{2j}a_{2j+1}$ .
- 9:   **end if**
- 10: **end for**
- 11: **for**  $j \leftarrow 0$  to 2 **do** { /\* calc. of  $\tilde{a}_{2j}, \tilde{a}_{2j+1}, \tilde{d}$  \*/ }
- 12:   **if**  $\infty \notin \{a_{2(j+1)}, a_{2(j+1)+1}, a_{2(j+2)}, a_{2(j+2)+1}\}$  **then** { /\* case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+1}) = \deg(G_{i,j+2}) = 2$  \*/ }
- 13:      $\rho_0 \leftarrow a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)}, \rho_1 \leftarrow a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)+1},$   
 $\rho_2 \leftarrow a_{2(j+1)} - a_{2(j+2)+1}, \rho_3 \leftarrow a_{2(j+1)+1} - a_{2(j+2)},$   
 $\vartheta_j \leftarrow \rho_0 + \rho_1, \nu \leftarrow \lambda_{j+1} - \lambda_{j+2}$ .
- 14:   **if**  $\vartheta_j \neq 0$  **then** { /\* case that  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 2$  \*/ }
- 15:      $\delta \leftarrow \rho_0\rho_1\rho_2\rho_3, \kappa \leftarrow \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \mu \leftarrow \vartheta_j^{-1},$   
 $\tilde{a}_{2j} \leftarrow (\nu + \kappa)\mu, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} \leftarrow (\nu - \kappa)\mu, \tilde{d} \leftarrow \vartheta_j\tilde{d}$ .
- 16:   **else** { /\* case that  $\deg(\tilde{G}_{i+1,j}) = 1$  \*/ }
- 17:      $\tilde{a}_{2j} \leftarrow (a_{2(j+1)} + a_{2(j+1)+1})/2, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} \leftarrow \infty, \tilde{d} \leftarrow -2\nu \cdot \tilde{d}$ .
- 18:   **end if**
- 19: **else** { /\* case that  $\deg(G_{i,j+1})$  or  $\deg(G_{i,j+2}) = 1$  \*/ }
- 20:   **if**  $\infty \in \{a_{2(j+1)}, a_{2(j+1)+1}\}$  **then**
- 21:      $j_0 \leftarrow j + 1, j_1 \leftarrow j + 2, \vartheta_j \leftarrow -1$ . { /\*  $j = j_0 + 2$  \*/ }
- 22:   **else**
- 23:      $j_0 \leftarrow j + 2, j_1 \leftarrow j + 1, \vartheta_j \leftarrow 1$ . { /\*  $j = j_0 + 1$  \*/ }
- 24:   **end if**
- 25:   Set  $(m_0, m_1)$  such that  $a_{m_0}$  is the zero of  $G_{j_0}(X)$  and  $a_{m_1} = \infty$ .
- 26:    $\rho_0 \leftarrow a_{m_0} - a_{2j_1}, \rho_1 \leftarrow a_{m_0} - a_{2j_1+1}, \delta \leftarrow \rho_0\rho_1,$   
 $\kappa \leftarrow \delta^{\frac{1}{2}}, \tilde{a}_{2j} \leftarrow a_{m_0} + \kappa, \tilde{a}_{2j+1} \leftarrow a_{m_0} - \kappa, \tilde{d} \leftarrow \vartheta_j\tilde{d}$ .
- 27:   **end if**
- 28: **end for**
- 29:  $\chi \leftarrow -\sum_{j=0}^2 \lambda_j\vartheta_j$ .
- 30: **if**  $\chi = 0$  **then** { /\* case that  $\det(M_i) = 0$  \*/ }
- 31:    $\tilde{d} \leftarrow \perp$ .
- 32: **else** { /\* case that  $\det(M_i) \neq 0$ . final update of  $\tilde{d}$  \*/ }
- 33:    $\tilde{d} \leftarrow \tilde{d} \cdot \chi^{-1}$ .
- 34: **end if**
- 35:  $\tilde{S}_{i+1} \leftarrow ((\tilde{a}_0, \dots, \tilde{a}_5), \tilde{d})$ .
- 36: **return**  $\tilde{S}_{i+1}$ .

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