

# ISOGENIES

**DEF.** Let  $E_1, E_2$  be elliptic curves. A morphism

$\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  w/  $\phi(\mathcal{O}_{E_1}) = \mathcal{O}_{E_2}$  is called an **isogeny**.

If  $\phi(E_1) \neq \{\mathcal{O}_{E_2}\}$  we say that  $E_1$  and  $E_2$  are **isogenous**.

ex  $[0]: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$        $[m]: E_1 \rightarrow E_1$   
 $P \mapsto \mathcal{O}_{E_2}$

$$P \mapsto [m]P = \underbrace{P + P + \dots + P}_{m \text{ times}}$$

for  $m \geq 1$ .

**THM**  $E \times E \rightarrow E$  is a morphism

$$(P, Q) \mapsto P + Q$$

$$\begin{aligned} E &\longrightarrow E && \text{is a morphism} \\ P &\mapsto -P \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{ex} \quad E_1 : y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx \quad , \quad E_2 : y^2 = x^3 - 2ax + \underbrace{(a^2 - 4b)x}_r$$

$$\phi : E_1 \longrightarrow E_2$$

$$(x, y) \longmapsto \left( \frac{y^2}{x^2}, \frac{y(b-x^2)}{x^2} \right)$$

(a 2-isogeny)

$$\hat{\phi} : E_2 \longrightarrow E_1$$

$$(x, y) \longmapsto \left( \frac{y^2}{4x^2}, \frac{y(r-x^2)}{8x^2} \right)$$

$$\phi \circ \hat{\phi} = [2] : E_2 \rightarrow E_2$$

$$\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [2] : E_1 \rightarrow E_1$$

DEF.  $\phi$  is an isogeny,  $\deg \phi = [\bar{K}(E_1) : \phi^* \bar{K}(E_2)]$

$\phi : E_1 \rightarrow E_2$        $\deg [\phi] = 0$ .

THM. Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  be an isogeny.

Then  $\phi(P+Q) = \phi(P) + \phi(Q)$  for all  $P, Q \in E_1$ .

Pf. If  $\phi = [0]$ , clear. Otherwise  $\phi$  is a finite map.

and let  $\phi_*: \text{Pic}^0(E_1) \longrightarrow \text{Pic}^0(E_2)$

class of  $\sum n_i \cdot (P_i) \longmapsto$  class of  $\sum n_i \cdot (\phi(P_i))$

Recall:

$$\text{Pic}^0(E_i) \cong E_i$$

(**NOTE:**  $\phi_*$  is well-defined :  $\phi_*(\text{div}(f)) = \text{div}(\phi^* f)$ )

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E_1 & \cong & \text{Pic}^0(E_1) \\ \phi \downarrow & \text{orange circle} & \downarrow \phi_* \\ E_2 & \cong & \text{Pic}^0(E_2) \end{array}$$

The diagram commutes :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P & \xrightarrow{\quad} & [(P) - (G)] \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \phi(P) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & [(\phi(P)) - (\phi(G))] \\ & \searrow & \\ & & [(\phi(P))'' - (G)] \end{array}$$

$$E_1 \cong P_{\mathbb{C}}^0(E_1)$$

$$\phi \downarrow \quad \textcircled{U} \quad \downarrow \phi^*$$

$$E_2 \cong P_{\mathbb{C}}^0(E_2)$$

$$P+Q \mapsto (P+Q)-(O) \sim (P)-(G) + (Q)-(G)$$

$$(P+Q)-(P)-(Q)+(O) = d \cdot (\delta/\rho) \sim O$$

$$\Rightarrow (P+Q)-(O) \sim (P)-(O) + (Q)-(G)$$

$$\phi(P+Q) \xrightarrow{\cong} (\phi(P+Q))-(O) \sim (\phi(P))-(G) + (\phi(Q))-(G)$$

$$\phi(P) + \phi(Q) \quad \parallel$$

Cor.  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  <sup>non-ct.</sup> an isogeny. Then  $\ker \phi = \phi^{-1}(O)$  is a finite subgroup of  $E_1$ .  
In particular  $\#\ker \phi \leq \deg \phi$ .

Pf.  $\sum_{P \in \phi^{-1}(O)} e_{\phi}(P) = \deg \phi \Rightarrow \#\phi^{-1}(O) \leq \deg \phi$ .

**DEF.** Let  $E_1, E_2$  be ell. curves over  $K$ .

- $\text{Hom}(E_1, E_2) = \{\text{isogenies} : E_1 \rightarrow E_2\}$  ( $\text{Hom}(E_1, E_2)$  is a gp under addition:  $(\phi + \psi)(P) = \phi(P) + \psi(P)$ )
- $\text{End}(E) = \text{Hom}(E, E)$  ( $\text{End}(E)$  is a ring under  $+$ ,  $\circ$  composition)  
 $(\phi \circ \psi)(P) = \phi(\psi(P))$
- $\text{Aut}(E) = \text{invertible elts of } \text{End}(E)$
- $\text{Hom}_K(E_1, E_2)$ ,  $\text{End}_K(E)$ ,  $\text{Aut}_K(E)$ .

ex  $[m] : E \rightarrow E$   $[m] \in \text{End}(E)$   
 $P \mapsto m \cdot P = P + \dots + P$  ,  $m > 0$

If  $m < 0$  ,  $[m] \cdot P = [-m] \cdot (-P) = \underbrace{(-P) + (-P) + \dots + (-P)}_{m \text{ times}}$

ex  $E: y^2 = x^3 - x$   $[i] \in \text{End}(E)$ .  
 $[i] : (x, y) \mapsto (-x, iy)$

Prop 4.2 (a)  $[m]$  is non-constant (on  $E(\bar{k})$ ) for all  $m \neq 0$ .  
 $m \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

(b)  $\text{Hom}(E_1, E_2)$  is a torsion-free  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

(c)  $\text{End}(E)$  is a ring of  $\text{char} = 0$  with no zero divisors  
(not necessarily commutative!).

Pg. Let  $p$  be a prime.

(a) Using explicit addition formulas, find  $x([p]Q)$ ,  $y([p]Q)$   
and thus find  $Q \in E(\bar{k})$  of order  $p$  for any prime  $p$ .

(b) Suppose  $\phi \in \text{Hom}(E_1, E_2)$ ,  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$        $m \cdot \phi := [m] \circ \phi$

$[m] \circ \phi = [0] \Rightarrow \deg[m] \cdot \deg \phi = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \deg[m] = 0 \Rightarrow m = 0. \\ \text{or } \deg \phi = 0 \Rightarrow \phi = [0]. \end{cases}$   
 $\Rightarrow \text{Hom}(E_1, E_2)$  is torsion free as a  $\mathbb{Z}$ -module.

(c) From (b),  $\text{End}(E) = \text{Hom}(E, E)$  is of char 0.

If  $\phi \circ \gamma = [0]$  then  $\deg \phi \cdot \deg \gamma = 0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \deg \phi = 0 \Rightarrow \phi = [0] \\ \deg \gamma = 0 \Rightarrow \gamma = [0] \end{cases} \text{ End}(E)$   
is an int. domain.  $\square \blacksquare \blacksquare$

DEF.  $E[m] = \{ P \in E : [m]P = O \} = E(\bar{k})[m]$

$\uparrow$   
 $E(\bar{k})$

$m \geq 2.$

$$E(K)[m] = \{ P \in E(K) : [m]P = O \} \subseteq E[m].$$

$$E_{\text{TORS}} = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} E[m]$$

DEF. (NOTE:  $[\cdot] : \mathbb{Z} \rightarrow \text{End}(E)$  is an injection )  
 $m \longmapsto [m] \quad (\mathbb{Z} \subseteq \text{End}(E))$

If  $\mathbb{Z} \subsetneq \text{End}(E)$ , then we say that  $E$  has complex multiplication  
or that  $E$  has CM.

ex  $E: y^2 = x^3 - x$      $\text{End}(E) \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathbb{Z}[i] : m \in \mathbb{Z}$

$[i] : (x,y) \mapsto (-x, iy)$

$$\sim \text{End}(E) \cong \mathbb{Z}[i] \\ (E \text{ has CM by } \mathbb{Z}[i].)$$

## ISOGENIES (CONTINUED)

NOTE:  $[m]: E \rightarrow E$  non-constant.

$$[m]([x, y, z]) = [\underbrace{f(x, y, z)}, \underbrace{g(x, y, z)}, \underbrace{h(x, y, z)}] \stackrel{?}{=} [0, 1, 0].$$

THM 4.10 Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  be a non-zero separable isogeny.

(a) (non-sep)

(b) The map

$$\begin{aligned} \ker \phi &\xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Aut}(\bar{k}(E_1)/\phi^* \bar{k}(E_2)) \\ T &\mapsto \tau_T^* \quad \text{is an isomorphism} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tau_T: E_1 \rightarrow E_1$   
 $P \mapsto P + T$

(c)  $\phi$  is unramified,  $\#\ker \phi = \deg \phi$ , and

$\bar{k}(E_1)/\phi^* \bar{k}(E_2)$  is Galois.

$$(c) \# \ker \phi = \deg \phi.$$

Recall:  $\#\phi^{-1}(Q) = \deg \phi$  for almost all  $Q \in E_2$ .

Suppose  $Q$  s.t.  $\#\phi^{-1}(Q) = \deg \phi$

and let  $Q' \in E_2$ . Then, let  $T \in E_2$  s.t.  $Q+T=Q'$   
and let  $\phi^{-1}(T)=P$ .

Then if  $\phi(S)=Q$  then  $\phi(S+P)=Q+T=Q'$

Thus,  $\deg \phi \geq \#\phi^{-1}(Q') \geq \#\{S+P : S \in \phi^{-1}(Q)\} = \#\phi^{-1}(Q) = \deg \phi$

$\Rightarrow \#\phi^{-1}(Q') = \deg \phi.$  ✓  $S+P=S'+P \Rightarrow S=S'$

$\xrightarrow{\quad}$   $\#\phi^{-1}(Q) = \deg \phi \quad \forall Q \in E_2 \Rightarrow \phi$  is unramified.

- By (b)  $\# \text{Aut}(\overline{k(E_1)} / \phi^* \overline{k(E_2)}) = \# \ker \phi = \deg \phi = [\overline{k(E_1)} / \phi^* \overline{k(E_2)}]$

$\xrightarrow{\quad}$  Galois!  $\square$

Cor 4.11 Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ ,  $\psi: E_1 \rightarrow E_3$  be (sep) isogenies.

If  $\ker \phi \subset \ker \psi$  then  $\exists! \lambda: E_2 \xrightarrow{\text{(isogeny)} } E_3$  s.t.  $\psi = \lambda \circ \phi$ .

Pf.  $\ker \phi \subset \ker \psi \Rightarrow \underbrace{\psi^* \bar{k}(E_3)}_{\text{in } \bar{k}(E_2)} \subseteq \phi^* \bar{k}(E_2) \subseteq \bar{k}(E_1)$

$$\Rightarrow \exists! \lambda: E_2 \rightarrow E_3 \text{ s.t. } \phi^*(\lambda^*(\bar{k}(E_3))) = \psi^* \bar{k}(E_3)$$

$$\Rightarrow \lambda \circ \phi = \psi. \text{ Moreover } \lambda(\mathcal{O}) = \lambda(\phi(\mathcal{O})) = \psi(\mathcal{O}) = \mathcal{O}.$$

Prop 4.12. Let  $E$  be an ell. curve, and let  $\Phi$  be a fin. subgp of  $E$ .

Then  $\exists! E', \phi: E \rightarrow E'$  isogeny s.t.  $\ker \phi = \Phi$ . (NOTATION:  $E' = E/\Phi$ )  
 $E \rightarrow E/\Phi$

Sketch Pf ~~Use  $\tau \in \Phi$~~   $\tau \in \Phi \rightsquigarrow \tau: E \rightarrow E$   $\rightsquigarrow \tau^*: \bar{k}(E) \rightarrow \bar{k}(E)$  automorphism of  $\bar{k}(E)$ .

$\bar{k}(E)^{\Phi}$  fixed field by  $\{\tau^*\}$ ,  $\Phi = \text{Gal}(\bar{k}(E)/\bar{k}(E)^{\Phi})$  trans deg 1 fm fields.

$\Rightarrow \exists C, \phi: E \rightarrow C$  s.t.  $\phi^* \bar{k}(C) = \bar{k}(E)^{\Phi}$

Last step: use Hurwitz formula to prove that genus of  $C$  is 1. 

Q  $\phi: E \rightarrow E$  is a morphism,  $\phi(O) = O$   $\Rightarrow$  gp hom.  
isogeny.

Suppose  $E(\bar{k}) \rightarrow E(\bar{k})$  is a gp hom. ... is this a rational map?

**DEF.** An abelian gp  $D$  is called divisible if the map  $x \mapsto nx$  is surjective  $\forall n \geq 1$ .

**COR.** (of Zorn's Lemma) Let  $D$  be a divisible gp. If  $A$  is any abelian gp and  $B \subseteq A$  is any subgp, then any homomorphism  $f: B \rightarrow D$  can be extended to a hom.  $\hat{f}: A \rightarrow D$ .

**APPLICATION:** Take  $A = D = E(\bar{k})$ , let  $P, Q$  be two lin. indep. pts on  $E(\bar{k})$  of infinite order ( $nP \neq mQ$  for any  $n, m \in \mathbb{Z}$ ).

Consider  $B = \langle P, Q \rangle$  and  $f: B \rightarrow E(\bar{k})$   
 $aP + bQ \mapsto aP \quad \forall a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \begin{pmatrix} P \mapsto P \\ Q \mapsto 0 \end{pmatrix}$

Then COR  $\rightarrow \hat{f}: E(\bar{k}) \rightarrow E(\bar{k})$  extends  $f$ , a gp. hom.

But  $\hat{f}$  is nm-constant ( $\hat{f}(P) = P$ ), AND  $\ker \hat{f} \supseteq \langle Q \rangle$  is infinite!

THUS  $\hat{f}$  CANNOT BE AN ISOGENY B/C  $\#\ker \hat{f} = \infty$  !!

Remark. A cyclic isogeny is an isogeny  $\phi: E \rightarrow E$ ,  
s.t.  $\ker \phi$  is cyclic.

An isogeny is  $K$ -rational if  $\phi/K$ .

Cyclic rational isogenies for elliptic curves /  $\mathbb{Q}$  are completely classified.

ex  $E/\mathbb{Q}$  w/ a 3-isogeny  $\iff \exists t \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times} \text{ s.t. } j(E) = \frac{(t+27)(t+3)^3}{t}$

... 5-isogeny  $\iff \exists t \in \mathbb{Q}^{\times} \text{ s.t. } j(E) = \frac{(t^2+10t+5)^3}{t}$

⋮

... 27-isogeny  $\iff j(E) = -2^{15} \cdot 3 \cdot 5^3$ .

DEG 2 EES:

2 — 10, 12, 13, 16, 18, 25

inf. many  $j$ 's

$\rightarrow$  11, 14, 15, 17, 19, 21, 27, 37, 43, 67, 163, other  
0 < fin. many  $j$ 's      no  $j$ 's.

# THE DUAL ISogeny

PREVIOUSLY... **COR 4.11** Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ ,  $\psi: E_1 \rightarrow E_3$  be sep.<sup>non-ct.</sup> isogenies  
s.t.  $\ker \phi \subseteq \ker \psi$ . Then  $\exists!$  isogeny  $\lambda: E_2 \rightarrow E_3$  s.t.  $\psi = \lambda \circ \phi$ .

ex

$$E_1: y^2 = x^3 + ax^2 + bx, \quad E_2: y^2 = x^3 - 2ax + (a^2 - 4b)x$$

$$\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2, (x, y) \mapsto \left( \frac{y^2}{x^2}, \frac{y(b-x^2)}{x^2} \right)^r$$

$$\hat{\phi}: E_2 \rightarrow E_1, (x, y) \mapsto \left( \frac{y^2}{4x^2}, \frac{y(r-x^2)}{8x^2} \right)$$

s.t.

$$\begin{array}{l} \phi \circ \hat{\phi} = [2] \\ \hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [2]. \end{array}$$

Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  an isogeny. (unramified!)

$$\phi^*: \text{Div}(E_2) \rightarrow \text{Div}(E_1)$$

$$(Q) \longmapsto \sum_{P \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} e_\phi(P) \cdot (P) = \sum_{P \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} (P)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \phi^*: \text{Pic}^\circ(E_2) \rightarrow \text{Pic}^\circ(E_1)$$

$$\rightsquigarrow \deg \phi^* D = (\deg \phi) \cdot (\deg D)$$

$$\text{Div}^\circ(E_2) \rightarrow \text{Div}^\circ(E_1)$$

$$\cdot \phi^*(\text{div } f) = \text{div}(\phi^* f)$$

$$\text{Pic}_{\text{nc}}(E_2) \rightarrow \text{Pic}_{\text{nc}}(E_1)$$

Induces  $\phi^*: P_{\leq c}^{\circ}(E_2) \rightarrow P_{\leq c}^{\circ}(E_1)$

$$[(Q)] \mapsto \left[ \sum_{P \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} (P) \right]$$

Note.

If  $P'$  also  $\phi(P') = Q$   $\underbrace{T \in \ker}_{\text{then } P' = P + T \text{ w/ } \phi(T) = 0}$

Recall:  $k_i: E_i \cong P_{\leq c}^{\circ}(E_i)$   $i=1,2$

$$P \mapsto [(P) - (0)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} [\deg \phi](P') &= [\deg \phi](P+T) \\ &= [\deg \phi]P + [\deg \phi]T \\ &= [\deg \phi]P \end{aligned}$$

Get:

$$E_2 \xrightarrow{k_2} P_{\leq c}^{\circ}(E_2) \xrightarrow{\phi^*} P_{\leq c}^{\circ}(E_1) \xrightarrow{k_1^{-1}} E_1$$

$\hat{\phi}$

Let  $Q \in E_2$ , let  $P \in E_1$  s.t.  $\phi(P) = Q$ . Then

$$Q \xrightarrow{k_2} [(Q) - (0)] \xrightarrow{\phi^*} \sum_{S \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} (S) - \sum_{T \in \phi^{-1}(0)} (T) = \sum_{S \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} (S) - (0) - \sum_{T \in \phi^{-1}(0)} (T) - (0)$$

$$\xrightarrow{} \sum_{S \in \phi^{-1}(Q)} S - \sum_{T \in \phi^{-1}(0)} T = \sum_{\substack{T \in \phi^{-1}(0) \\ r, \phi(P) + \phi(T)}} P + T - \sum_{T \in \phi^{-1}(0)} T = \sum_{T \in \phi^{-1}(0)} P = [\# \phi^{-1}(0)] \cdot P$$

If  $\phi(P) = Q$ , then  $\phi(P+T) = Q'$   
 $\therefore T \in \ker \phi = \phi^{-1}(0)$

$$E_2 \xrightarrow{k_2} P_{\text{ic}}^{\circ}(E_2) \xrightarrow{\phi^*} P_{\text{ic}}^{\circ}(E_1) \xrightarrow{k_1^{-1}} E_1$$

$Q \longmapsto [\deg \phi] \cdot P$

}

in the video I made a mistake  
and said  $P \mapsto [\deg \phi](P)$   
but  $Q \mapsto [\deg \phi](P)$  is NOT clearly  
an isogeny.

The proof  
below shows  
it is an  
isogeny!

**THM 6.1** Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  be an isogeny of degree  $m > 1$ . (separable).

(a)  $\exists!$  isogeny  $\hat{\phi}: E_2 \rightarrow E_1$  s.t.  $\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m] = [\deg \phi]$ .

(b) As a gp hom.  $\hat{\phi} = k_1^{-1} \circ \phi^* \circ k_2$ .

Pf. (a) Uniqueness.  $\hat{\phi}, \hat{\phi}'$  are such that  $\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m] = \hat{\phi}' \circ \phi$

$$\Rightarrow (\hat{\phi} - \hat{\phi}') \circ \phi = [m] - [m] = [0]$$

Since  $\phi$  is non-constant,  $\hat{\phi} - \hat{\phi}'$  must be constant  $\Rightarrow \hat{\phi} = \hat{\phi}'$ .

- $\#\ker \phi = \deg \phi = m$ , so  $\ker \phi \subseteq \ker [m] \Rightarrow \exists! \text{ isogeny } \hat{\phi}: E_2 \rightarrow E_1$   
s.t.  $\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m]$ , and  $\hat{\phi} = k_1^{-1} \circ \phi^* \circ k_2$

$$\hat{\phi}(Q) = \hat{\phi}(\phi(P)) = [m]P = [\deg \phi]P = (k_1^{-1} \circ \phi^* \circ k_2)(Q) \quad \square$$

DEF. Let  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$  be an isogeny.

The isogeny  $\hat{\phi}: E_2 \rightarrow E_1$  s.t.  $\hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m]$   
is called the dual isogeny.

THM 6.2.  $\phi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2$ ,  $\deg \phi = m$

$$(a) \hat{\phi} \circ \phi = [m]_{E_1}, \quad \phi \circ \hat{\phi} = [m]_{E_2}$$

$$(b) \lambda: E_2 \rightarrow E_3 \text{ isog. then } \hat{\lambda} \circ \hat{\phi} = \hat{\phi} \circ \hat{\lambda}$$

$$(c) \psi: E_1 \rightarrow E_2 \text{ isog. then } \hat{\phi} + \hat{\psi} = \hat{\phi} + \hat{\psi}$$

$$(d) \forall m \in \mathbb{Z} \quad \hat{[m]} = [m], \quad \deg [m] = m^2$$

$$(e) \deg \hat{\phi} = \deg \phi$$

$$(f) \hat{\hat{\phi}} = \phi.$$

Clear  $m=0, m=1$

Induction on  $m$ :

$$\hat{[m+1]} = \hat{[m]} + \hat{[1]}$$

$$= [m] + [1] = [m+1]$$

and  $d = \deg [m]$

$$[d] = \hat{[m]} \circ [m] = [m] \circ [m] \\ = [m^2]$$

$$\Rightarrow d = m^2.$$

Cor •  $\# E[m] = m^2$

- If  $\text{char}(k) = 0$  (or if  $(\text{char}(k), m) = 1$ ) then

$$E[m] \cong \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}$$

"

$E(\bar{k})[m]$

- If  $\text{char}(k) = p$  then either

$$\begin{cases} E[p^e] \cong \{0\} & \forall e=1,2,3,\dots \\ E[p^e] \cong \mathbb{Z}/p^e\mathbb{Z} & \forall e \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Pf

- $\# E[m] = \# \ker [m] = \deg[m] = m^2.$

- $\# E[m] = m^2$  and  $d|m$ , then  $\# E[d] = d^2$  and  $E[d] \subseteq E[m].$

$E[m]$  is a finite ab gp:

- $\# E[m] = m^2$
- $\# E[d] = d^2$  for any  $d|m$
- $P \in E[m]$ ,  $\text{ord}(P) | m$ .

ex prime

$$\# E[p] = p^2$$

$$\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$$

cannot be elts of order  $p^2$ !

exercise in gp. theory.



