#### Simplified Settings for Discrete Logarithms in Small Characteristic Finite Fields

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Joint work with Cécile Pierrot

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  - Generic algorithms (Pollard's Rho, Pohlig-Hellman...)
  - Specific algorithms (Index Calculus



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#### Generic algorithms: Pohlig-Hellman

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• Given a multiplicative group G with generator g

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• To compute dlogs in *G*, it suffices to compute dlogs in:

$$G_i = \langle g^{|G|/p_i} \rangle$$
 (Group of order  $p_i$ )

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$$y = g^n$$

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- Baby-step giant-step (let  $R = \lceil \sqrt{p} \rceil$ ):
  - Create list  $y, y/g, \cdots, y/g^{R-1}$
  - Create list  $1, h, h^2, \cdots, h^{R-1}$ , where  $h = g^R$
  - Find collision

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  - Find collision
- Can be improved to memoryless algorithms using cycle finding techniques

To compute Discrete Logs in G:



#### Collection of Relations

 $\rightarrow$  Create a lot of sparse multiplicative relations between some (small) specific elements = the factor base

$$\prod g_i^{e_i} = \prod g_i^{e_i'} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \sum (e_i - e_i') \log(g_i) = 0$$

 $\rightarrow$  So a lot of sparse linear equations

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- Extension Phase (for small characteristic finite fields)
  - $\rightarrow$  Recover the Discrete Logs of the extended factor base

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- Sextension Phase (for small characteristic finite fields)
  - $\rightarrow$  Recover the Discrete Logs of the extended factor base
- Individual Logarithm Phase
  - $\rightarrow$  Recover the Discrete Log of an arbitrary element

## Complexity of Index calculus algorithms (before 2013)

$$L_Q(\beta,c) = \exp((c+o(1))(\log Q)^{\beta}(\log \log Q)^{1-\beta}).$$



•  $G = \mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  where p is small compared to n.

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Linear algebra and extension phase dominate.

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Linear algebra and extension phase dominate.

In this talk:

Simplified description of algorithms + additional ideas

 $\Rightarrow$  Improve the complexity of the polynomial phases.

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 $\mathbb{F}_{a^k}$ 

• How ? Represent  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  as

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^{m.k}} = \mathbb{F}_{(p^m)^k} = \mathbb{F}_{q^k} \simeq \mathbb{F}_q[X]/(I(X)) \text{ where}$$
  
  $I(X) \text{ is an irreducible polynomial of degree } k \text{ such that:}$ 

$$I(X)|h_1(X)X^q - h_0(X)$$

where  $h_0$  and  $h_1$  are polynomials of low degrees.

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• Why ? To have two equations in the finite field:

$$\prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (X - \alpha) = X^q - X \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{X^q = \frac{h_0(X)}{h_1(X)}}_{\text{Furthermore}}$$

Frobenius Representation

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 $h_0$ : deg 1 polynomial

 $h_1$ : deg 2 polynomial

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$$I(X)|h_1(X)X^q - h_0(X)$$
 or  $I(X)|h_1(X^q)X - h_0(X^q)$ 

 $\mathbb{F}_{a^k}$ 

where h<sub>0</sub> and h<sub>1</sub> are polynomials of low degrees.
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$$\prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (X - \alpha) = X^q - X \quad \text{and} \underbrace{X^q = \frac{h_0(X)}{h_1(X)}}_{\text{Frobenius Representation}} \quad \text{or} \underbrace{X = \frac{h_0(X^q)}{h_1(X^q)}}_{\text{Dual Frob. Rep.}}$$

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$$h_0$$
: deg 1 polynomial or  $h_0$ : deg 2 polynomial  
 $h_1$ : deg 2 polynomial  $h_1$ : deg 1 polynomial  $h_1$ : deg 1 polynomial

Our goal: multiplicative relation between small degree polynomials.

Image: Image:

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Main idea : start from 
$$\prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (X - \alpha) = X^q - X$$
 (\*\*).

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$$\prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q}} (X - \alpha) = X^{q} - X \quad (**).$$
  
Let A and B be 2 small polynomials in  $\mathbb{F}_{q}[X]$  (i.e. of degree  $\leq D$ ).  
$$B(X)\prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{q}} (A(X) - \alpha B(X)) = A(X)^{q}B(X) - A(X)B(X)^{q}$$
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vve finally get:

$$h_1(X)^D B(X) \prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (A(X) - \alpha B(X)) = [A, B]_D(X)$$
Product of small polynomials !!

# Properties and simplification of $[A, B]_D(X)$

•  $[A, B]_D$  is bilinear

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$$[A,A]_D=0.$$

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- Assume deg A = D and deg B = D 1. Then, using bilinearity, one may reduce the coefficient of X<sup>D-1</sup> in A to 0.
- In the sequel, we assume:

$$A(X) = X^{D} + A_{D-2}(X)$$
 and  
 $B(X) = X^{D-1} + B_{D-2}(X).$ 

# A Small Factor Base

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# A Small Factor Base

We have:  $h_1(X)^D B(X) \prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (A(X) - \alpha B(X)) = [A, B]_D(X)$ polynomials of degree  $\leq D$ • A natural Factor Base: Irreducible poly in  $\mathbb{F}_q[X]$  of deg  $\leq D$ .

•  $D \searrow \Rightarrow$  size of the factor base  $\searrow \Rightarrow$  complexity of Linear Algebra  $\searrow$ . The smaller, the better.

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polynomials of degree  $\leq D$ 

- A natural Factor Base: Irreducible poly in  $\mathbb{F}_{a}[X]$  of deg  $\leq D$ .
- $D \searrow \Rightarrow$  size of the factor base  $\searrow \Rightarrow$  complexity of Linear Algebra  $\searrow$ . The smaller, the better.
- What is simple ? Irreducible poly in  $\mathbb{F}_{a}[X]$  of degree  $\leq 2$ .
- Yet, lowering D rises 2 problems:
  - Need to generate enough good equations = equations where  $[A, B]_2$  splits in terms of degree  $\leq 2$ . Pb: the probability  $\mathcal{P}$  to have good equations is too small w.r.t the number of equations required (need  $\mathcal{P} > 1/2$ ).

2 Need to be able to descend large polynomials to degree 2 ones.

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# A Small Factor Base: Systematic factors of $[A, B]_D$

- First goal, solving pb 1: i.e. improve the probability  $\mathcal{P}$ .
- How ?  $[A, B]_2$  is a degree 6 polynomial. The prob that it factors into degree 2 polynomials is too low.

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- $\bullet$  First goal, solving pb 1: i.e. improve the probability  $\mathcal{P}.$
- How ?  $[A, B]_2$  is a degree 6 polynomial. The prob that it factors into degree 2 polynomials is too low. Yet,  $[A, B]_D$  has a systematic factor of degree 3 ! Namely  $X h_1(X) - h_0(X)$ .
- A degree 3 polynomial factors into terms of degree at most 2 with prob  $\mathcal{P}>2/3>1/2.$

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- A degree 3 polynomial factors into terms of degree at most 2 with prob  $\mathcal{P}>2/3>1/2.$



⇒ Linear Algebra permits to recover the DLogs of the factor base in  $O((\# \text{ factor base})^2(\# \text{ of entries})) \approx O(q^5)$  operations.

Second goal: Solving pb 2 i.e. extend the factor base to degree 3 BUT without performing linear algebra on a matrix of dim  $q^3$ .

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**3** Given  $(q^2)$ , generate equations involving only poly in  $(q^2)$  and degree 1 and 2 polynomials (whose logs are already known).

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• An example: let 
$$c = \{(X^3 + c) + \alpha X^2 + \beta X | (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{F}_q^2\}.$$

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 Irreducible  $\Rightarrow$  new unknowns

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Reducible  $\leftarrow$  Irreducible  $\Rightarrow$  new unknowns

As for degree 2: set  $A(X) = (X^3 + c) + \alpha X^2$  and  $B(X) = (X^3 + c) + \beta X$  and create relations of the form:

$$h_1(X)^3 B(X) \prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (A(X) - \alpha B(X)) = \underbrace{[A, B]_3(X)}_{\text{deg 8 with these } A \text{ and } B} \\ + \deg 3 \text{ systematic factor}_{\text{+ divisible by } X}$$

 $[A,B]_3(X)$ 

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all belongs to C !!

deg 8 with these A and B + deg 3 systematic factor + divisible by X

Prob that  $[A, B]_3$  factors into deg  $\leq 2 \Rightarrow 41\%$ . Enough !

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• Complexity to recover the Dlogs of all degree 3 polynomials:  $O((\underbrace{\# c}_{q})(\underbrace{\# \text{ factor base}}_{q^2})^2(\underbrace{\# \text{ of entries}}_{q})) \approx O(q^6)$  ops.

Third goal: extend the factor base to degree 4 by performing smaller linear algebra steps.

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What is simple ? To consider that:

- 2 poly belongs to the same 3 if same constant coefficient. AND 2 poly belongs to the same 3 if same coeff before X.
- Given , generate equations involving only poly in it and degree 1, 2 and 3 polynomials.

• How ? Previous techniques (bilinear descent from 4 to 3) + additional equations + systematic factors of  $[A, B]_4$ .

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- How ? Previous techniques (bilinear descent from 4 to 3) + additional equations + systematic factors of  $[A, B]_4$ .
- Complexity of DLogs computation of ONE  $(q^3)$ :

$$O((\underbrace{\# \stackrel{q^{2}}{@} in \stackrel{q^{3}}{@}}_{q}) \cdot (\underbrace{\# \stackrel{q^{2}}{@}}_{q^{2}})^{2} \underbrace{(\# entries)}_{q}) = O(q^{6}) \text{ ops.}$$

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Final complexity dominated by the first  $\underbrace{(q^{3})}_{q}$  computation



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 Unknown



⇒ Final complexity of extension to deg 4 in  $O(q^6)$  operations.

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⇒ Final complexity of extension to deg 4 in  $O(q^6)$  operations.

#### Main Result

Final asymptotic complexity of the three first phases:

 $O(q^6)$  operations – to be compared with previous  $O(q^7)$ .

# Individual Logarithms (Descent strategies)

• Continued fractions (high degrees)

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- Bilinear descent (for mid to low degrees)
- Quasi-polynomial descent (all degrees)
- ZigZag descent (all even degrees)

# General principle

• Given target z(x) in finite field, write:



• Need two variables x and y

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• If 
$$q = p^{\ell}$$
, let:

$$y = x^{p^{\ell_1}}$$
 then  
 $y^{p^{\ell_2}} = x^{p^{\ell}} = \frac{h_0(x)}{h_1(x)}.$ 

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• Let F(x, y) be a (low degree) bivariate polynomial in  $\mathbb{F}_q[x, y]$ , then:

$$F(x, x^{p^{\ell_1}})^{p^{\ell_2}} = F(x^{p^{\ell_2}}, h_0(x)/h_1(x))$$
 in  $\mathbb{F}_{q^k}$ .

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 Force z(x) as divisor of F(x, x<sup>p<sup>l</sup>1</sup>) or F(x<sup>p<sup>l</sup>2</sup>, h<sub>0</sub>(x)/h<sub>1</sub>(x)) (linear algebra)

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- Low arity in descent but can't go very low

• Remember basic Equation:

$$h_1(X)^D B(X) \prod_{\alpha \in \mathbb{F}_q} (A(X) - \alpha B(X)) = [A, B]_D(X)$$

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- Make z(x) appear on the right or left
  - On the right: bilinear descent
  - On the left: quasi-polynomial
  - On the right (powers of two): ZigZag descent [GKZ14]

- Continued fractions, at most one application
- Classical descent, many levels possible
- Bilinear descent (or [GKZ14]), in practice 4-5 levels max.
- Quasi-polynomial descent in practice 2 levels max.

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# Practical application

- $\bullet$  Record in characteristic 3 on  $\mathbb{F}_{3^{5\cdot479}},$  a finite field of cardinality a 3796-bit integer.
  - Not a special extension field such as Kummer extension !
  - Make use of the Dual Frobenius Representation combined with the useful variant (both not presented here).
- To be compared with previous record in characteristic 3 by Adj, Menezes, Oliveira and Rodriguez-Henriquez on a 1551-bit finite field.
- Time : 8600 CPU-hours  $\approx 1$  CPU-year

## Complexities of Index Calculus Algorithms



Questions ?



Ξ.