

# Fast, uniform scalar multiplication for genus 2 Jacobians with fast Kummers

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We want to implement basic cryptosystems  
based on the hardness of  
the Discrete Logarithm and Diffie–Hellman problems  
in some group  $\mathcal{G}$ .

*Especially: Diffie–Hellman Key exchange,  
Schnorr and (EC)DSA Signatures, ...*

## Work to be done

Group operation in  $\mathcal{G}$ :  $\oplus$ . Inverse:  $\ominus$ .

We occasionally need to compute isolated  $\oplus$ es.

We mostly need to compute *scalar multiplications*:

$$(m, P) \mapsto [m]P := \underbrace{P \oplus \dots \oplus P}_{m \text{ times}}$$

for  $P$  in  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $m$  in  $\mathbb{Z}$  (with  $[-m]P = [m](\ominus P)$ ).

Side channel safety  $\implies$  scalar multiplication must be *uniform* and *constant-time* when the scalar  $m$  is secret.

## ...So you want to instantiate a DLP/DHP-based protocol

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Smallest key size for a given security level:  
use an *elliptic curve* or a *genus 2 Jacobian*.

### *For signatures and encryption:*

Elliptic: Edwards curves (eg. Ed25519), NIST curves, etc.

Genus 2: Jacobian surfaces.

Scalar mult: *Uniform* genus 2 is **much slower** than elliptic curves.

### *For Diffie–Hellman:*

Elliptic:  $x$ -lines of Montgomery curves (eg. Curve25519)

Genus 2: Kummer surfaces (Jacobians modulo  $\pm 1$ ).

Scalar mult: *Uniform* genus 2 can be **faster** than elliptic curves.

*E.g.: Bos–Costello–Hisil–Lauter (2012)*

*Bernstein–Chuengsatiansup–Lange–Schwabe (2014)*

*Our aim: bring Diffie–Hellman performance to signatures in genus 2.*

## Genus 2 curves

$\mathcal{C} : y^2 = f(x)$  with  $f \in \mathbb{F}_p[x]$  degree 5 or 6 and squarefree  
*Unlike elliptic curves, the points do not form a group.*

## Making groups from genus 2 curves

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Jacobian: algebraic group  $\mathcal{J}_C \sim \mathcal{C}^{(2)}$ :

Elements are **pairs of points** on  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  
with all pairs  $\{(x, y), (x, -y)\}$  “blown down” to 0.

Negation  $\ominus : \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)\} \mapsto \{(x_1, -y_1), (x_2, -y_2)\}$

Group law on  $\mathcal{J}_C$  induced by

$$\{P_1, P_2\} \oplus \{Q_1, Q_2\} \oplus \{R_1, R_2\} = 0$$

whenever  $P_1, P_2, Q_1, Q_2, R_1, R_2$  are  
the intersection of  $\mathcal{C}$  with some cubic  $y = g(x)$ .

*Why? Any 4 points in the plane determine a cubic  $y = g(x)$ , which must intersect  $\mathcal{C} : y^2 = f(x)$  in 6 points because  $g(x)^2 = f(x)$  has 6 solutions.*

*Genus 2 group law:  $\{P_1, P_2\} \oplus \{Q_1, Q_2\} = \ominus\{R_1, R_2\} = \{S_1, S_2\}$*

*Algorithmically: we use the Mumford representation and Cantor's algorithm.*

## Why is uniform genus 2 tricky?

Elements  $\{P_1, P_2\}$ : separate, *incompatible* representations for cases where one or both of the  $P_i$  are at infinity.

Group law  $\{P_1, P_2\} \oplus \{Q_1, Q_2\} = \{S_1, S_2\}$ :

branch-tacular, separate special cases for  $P_i, Q_i$  at infinity, for  $P_i = P_j$ , for  $P_i = Q_j$ , for  $\{P_1, P_2\} = \{Q_1, Q_2\}, \dots$

These special cases are never implemented in “record-breaking” genus 2 implementations, but they’re easy to attack in practice.

For elliptic curves, we can always sweep the special cases under a convenient line to get a uniform group law, but in genus 2 this is much harder; *protection kills performance*.



## Why is Diffie–Hellman different?

Now you know why genus 2 Jacobians are painful candidates for cryptographic groups.

So why is genus 2 fast and safe for Diffie–Hellman?

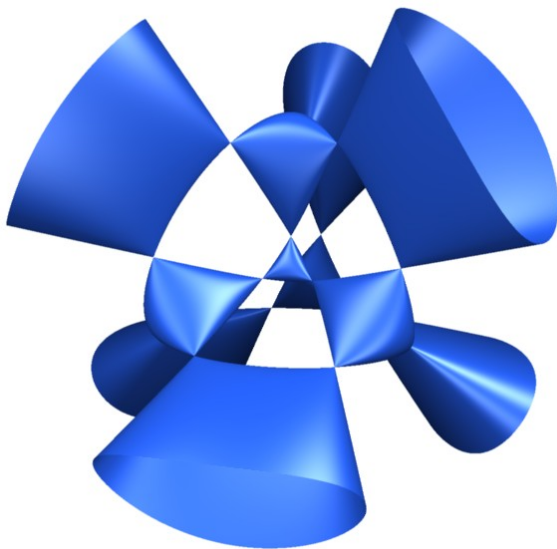
Because DH *doesn't need a group law*, just scalar multiplication.

So we can “drop signs” and work modulo  $\ominus$ , on the **Kummer surface**

$$\mathcal{K}_c := \mathcal{J}_c / \langle \pm 1 \rangle .$$

*Elliptic curve equivalent: work on  $x$ -line  $\mathbb{P}^1$ , eg. Curve25519 (Bernstein 2006).*

## What a Kummer surface looks like



## Moving from $\mathcal{J}_C$ to the Kummer $\mathcal{K}_C$

Quotient map  $x : \mathcal{J}_C \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_C$  (ie  $x(P) = \pm P$ )

No group law on  $\mathcal{K}_C$ :  $x(P)$  and  $x(Q)$  determines  $x(P \oplus Q)$  and  $x(P \ominus Q)$ , but we can't tell which is which.

Still,  $\ominus[m](P) = [m](\ominus P)$  for any  $m \in \mathbb{Z}$  and  $P \in \mathcal{J}_C$ , so we do have a “scalar multiplication” on  $\mathcal{K}_C$ :

$$[m] : x(P) \mapsto x([m]P) .$$

**Problem:** How do we compute  $[m]$  efficiently, *without*  $\oplus$ ?

Any 3 of  $x(P)$ ,  $x(Q)$ ,  $x(P \ominus Q)$ , and  $x(P \oplus Q)$  determines the 4th, so we can define

*pseudo-addition*

$$\mathbf{xADD} : (x(P), x(Q), x(P \ominus Q)) \mapsto x(P \oplus Q)$$

*pseudo-doubling*

$$\mathbf{xDBL} : x(P) \mapsto x([2]P)$$

Bonus: easier to hide/avoid special cases in  $\mathbf{xADD}$  than  $\oplus$ .

$\implies$  Evaluate  $[m]$  by combining  $\mathbf{xADD}$ s and  $\mathbf{xDBL}$ s using **differential** addition chains

(*ie. every  $\oplus$  has summands with known difference*).

Classic example: the Montgomery ladder.

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**Algorithm 1** The Montgomery ladder

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```
1: function LADDER( $m = \sum_{i=0}^{\beta-1} m_i 2^i, P$ )
2:    $(R_0, R_1) \leftarrow (0, P)$ 
3:   for  $i := \beta - 1$  down to 0 do
4:      $(R_{m_i}, R_{\neg m_i}) \leftarrow ([2]R_{m_i}, R_{m_i} \oplus R_{\neg m_i})$ 
5:   end for            $\triangleright$  invariant:  $(R_0, R_1) = ([\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor]P, [\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor + 1]P)$ 
6:   return  $R_0$             $\triangleright R_0 = [m]P, R_1 = [m]P \oplus P$ 
7: end function
```

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For each group operation  $R_0 \oplus R_1$ , the difference  $R_0 \ominus R_1$  is fixed  
 $\implies$  trivial adaptation from  $\mathcal{J}_c$  to  $\mathcal{K}_c$

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**Algorithm 2** The Montgomery ladder on the Kummer

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```
1: function LADDER( $m = \sum_{i=0}^{\beta-1} m_i 2^i, \pm P$ )
2:    $(x_0, x_1) \leftarrow (x(0), x(P))$ 
3:   for  $i := \beta - 1$  down to 0 do
4:      $(x_{m_i}, x_{-m_i}) \leftarrow (\text{xDBL}(x_{m_i}), \text{xADD}(x_0, x_1, x(P)))$ 
5:   end for   ▷ invariant:  $x_0 = x(\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor P), x_1 = x(\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor + 1)P$ 
6:   return  $x_0 (= x(\lfloor m \rfloor P))$ 
7: end function
```

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High symmetry of  $\mathcal{K}_{\mathcal{C}} \implies$  fast, vectorizable `xADD` and `xDBL` (Gaudry)  
 $\implies$  very fast Kummer-based Diffie–Hellman implementations  
Eg. Bos–Costello–Hisil–Lauter (2013),  
Bernstein–Chuengsatiansup–Lange–Schwabe (2014).

## Pulling a y-rabbit out of an x-hat

Kummer multiplication computes  $x([m]P)$  from  $x(P)$   
—but we need  $[m]P$  for signatures...

Mathematically, we threw away the sign:  
you can't deduce  $[m]P$  from  $P$  and  $x([m]P)$ .

But there's a trick: if you computed  $x([m]P)$   
using the Montgomery ladder, then you can!

At the end of the loop,  $x_0 = x([m]P)$  and  $x_1 = x([m]P \oplus P)$ ;  
and  $P$ ,  $x(Q)$ , and  $x(Q \oplus P)$  uniquely determines  $Q$  (for any  $Q$ ).

Our paper: efficiently computing this in genus 2, with  
1D (Montgomery) and 2D (Bernstein) SM algorithms.

$P$ ,  $x(Q)$ , and  $x(P \oplus Q)$  determine  $Q$

This is an old trick for elliptic curves: cf. López–Dahab (CHES 99), Okeya–Sakurai (CHES 01), Brier–Joye (PKC 02).



*Genus 2 group law:*  $\{P_1, P_2\} \oplus \{Q_1, Q_2\} = \{S_1, S_2\}$

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Choosing  $\{T_1, T_2\}$  as (the wrong) preimage of  $x(\{Q_1, Q_2\})$   
yields a cubic incompatible with  $x(\{S_1, S_2\})$ .

So: your fast Kummer implementations can now be easily upgraded to full Jacobian group implementations.

Fast Diffie–Hellman code now yields efficient signatures.

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**Algorithm 3** Montgomery/Kummer-based multiplication on the Jacobian

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```
1: function SCALARMULTIPLY( $m = \sum_{i=0}^{\beta-1} m_i 2^i$ ,  $P$ )
2:    $(x_0, x_1) \leftarrow (x(0), x(P))$ 
3:   for  $i := \beta - 1$  down to 0 do ▷ Montgomery ladder
4:      $(x_{m_i}, x_{-m_i}) \leftarrow (x\text{DBL}(x_{m_i}), x\text{ADD}(x_0, x_1, x(P)))$ 
5:   end for ▷ invariant:  $x_0 = x(\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor P)$ ,  $x_1 = x(\lfloor m/2^i \rfloor + 1)P$ 
6:    $Q \leftarrow \text{Recover}(P, x_0, x_1)$  ▷  $Q = [m]P$ 
7:   return  $Q$ 
8: end function
```

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## Gratuitous cross-promotion

...this isn't just wishful theory.

Our technique was used in  $\mu$ Kummer:  
efficient Diffie–Hellman *and* Schnorr  
signatures for microcontrollers  
(Renes–Schwabe–S.–Batina, CHES 2016)

## Comparison for 8-bit architecture (AVR ATmega):

Protocol	Object	kCycles	Stack bytes
Diffie–Hellman	Curve25519	13900	494
	$\mu$ Kummer	9513 (68%)	99 (20%)
Schnorr signing	Ed25519	19048	1473
	$\mu$ Kummer	10404 (55%)	926 (63%)
Schnorr verifying	Ed25519	30777	1226
	$\mu$ Kummer	16241 (53%)	992 (75%)

(vs. Curve25519: Düll-Haase-Hinterwälder-Hutter-Paar-Sánchez-Schwabe, Ed25519: Nascimento-López-Dahab)

## Comparison for 32-bit architecture (ARM Cortex M0):

Multiplication for	Object	kCycles	Stack bytes
Diffie–Hellman	Curve25519	3590	548
	$\mu$ Kummer	2634 (73%)	248 (45%)
Schnorr	NIST-P256	10730	540
	$\mu$ Kummer	2709 (25%)	968 (179%)

(vs. Curve25519: Düll-Haase-Hinterwälder-Hutter-Paar-Sánchez-Schwabe, NIST-P256: Wenger-Unterluggauer-Werner)