

## A New Attacking Method to Solve the Discrete Logarithm Problem on Elliptic Curves

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**Abstract** In this paper, we provides two propositions that give a direct computing of the Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem (ECDLP) and propose a method for the computation of discrete logarithms in the Elliptic Curve (EC) defined over finite fields  $F_p$ . This propositions and propose method provides a new approach to the field of attacking methods of the Elliptic Curve Cryptosystems. In addition, we give a program to implement the proposed method by using MATLAB.

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### Introduction

Several researches were available about ECDLP related to them. For good survey one can turn to [4]. The security of modern public key cryptosystems is based in the difficulty for solving efficiently some kind of mathematical problems. Since the invention of the public key cryptography by Diffie and Hellman in 1976 [1], many public key crypto systems have been proposed, of these some have been broken and others have been demonstrated to be impractical. Today, only three type of systems are considered enough secure and efficient. Such systems are based in one of the following mathematical problems:

Integer factorization problem (IFP).

Discrete logarithm problem (DLP).

Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem (ECDLP).

Although none of these problems have been proved to be intractable, are

considered as intractable because years of study has failed to yield efficient algorithms to solve them. The Elliptic Curve Discrete Logarithm problem can be defined as follows: Given an elliptic curve  $E$  defined over a finite field  $F_p$ , a point  $P$  of order  $n$  on  $E$ , and a point  $Q$  a point in the group generated by  $P$ , determine the integer  $k$  is called the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$ , denoted  $k = \log_P Q$ , between  $0$  and  $n-1$  such that  $Q = [k]P$ , provided that such an integer exists. Based on the statement above we define  $Q$  to be the public key and  $k$  the private one. Based on intractability of this problem, Neal Koblitz [3] and Victor Miller [5] independently proposed using the group of points on an elliptic curve defined over a finite field to implement the various discrete logarithm cryptosystems. Elliptic curves have been applied to modify public key cryptosystem, such as the DSA [6].

### Background on Elliptic Curves

An elliptic curve over field  $F_p$  is defined by an equation of the form

$$y^2 = x^3 + ax + b, \quad (1)$$

where  $a, b \in F_p$ , such that  $4a^3 + 27b^2 \neq 0$  in  $F_p$ .

The set  $E(F_p)$  consists in all points  $(x, y) \in F_p \times F_p$  which satisfy equation (1), together with a special point  $O_\infty$ , called the point at the infinity.

$E(F_p)$  forms an abelian group with the addition operation defined as follow:

$$O_\infty \oplus O_\infty = O_\infty$$

$$(x, y) \oplus O_\infty = (x, y), \quad O_\infty \text{ is the identity}$$

$(x, y) \oplus (x, -y) = O_\infty$ . The inverse of one element is obtained changing the sign of the second component.

To add two different elements, which are not one inverse of the other, we apply the following rule :

$$(x_1, y_1) \oplus (x_2, y_2) = (x_3, y_3)$$

$$x_3 = \lambda^2 - x_1 - x_2, \quad y_3 = \lambda(x_1 - x_3) - y_1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$

To add a point with itself, we apply the rule :

$$2(x_1, y_1) = (x_3, y_3)$$

$$x_3 = \lambda^2 - 2x_1, \quad y_3 = \lambda(x_1 - x_3) - y_1$$

$$\lambda = \frac{3x_1^2 + a}{2y_1}$$

The last two operations have a straight geometric interpretation. As shown in Figure(1), if  $P=(x_1, y_1)$  and  $Q=(x_2, y_2)$  are two distinct points over the elliptic curve, then the sum of  $P, Q$ , denoted as  $R=(x_3, y_3)$ , defined as follows: First draw a line through  $P$  and  $Q$ . This line intersects the EC at the third point  $R'$ . Taking

If  $P \in E(F_p)$  then we denoted as  $[k]P$  the result of adding  $k$  times with himself;  $\underbrace{P \oplus P \oplus \dots \oplus P}_{k \text{ times}}$  and the order of  $P$  is the smallest positive integer  $n$  such that  $[n]P = O_\infty$ . We denote the order of  $P$  by  $\text{ord}(P)$  [2].

### Inventions for Solving ECDLP

This section provides two proposition that give a direct computing of the ECDLP and anew attacking method to solve ECDLP.

the reflection of this point about the  $x$ -axis. We obtain the point  $R$ .

To add a point  $P=(x_1, y_1)$  to itself, a tangent line to the curve is drawn at the point  $P$ . If  $y_1 \neq 0$  then the tangent line intersects the curve at a second point,  $R'$ .  $R'$  is reflected to the  $x$ -axis to  $R$ . This operation is called doubling the point  $P$  as shown in Figure (2).

If a point  $P$  is such that  $y_1=0$ , then the tangent line to the EC at  $P$  is vertical and does intersect the EC at any other point. By part(5),[2]  $P=O_\infty$  for such a point  $P$  as shown in Figure (3).

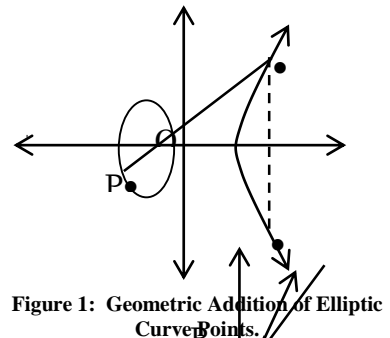
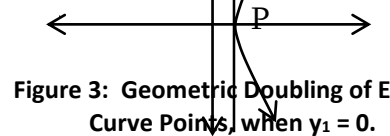


Figure 2: Geometric Doubling of Elliptic Curve Points, when  $y_1 \neq 0$ .



### Proposition (1)

Let  $E$  be an EC defined over the finite field  $F_p$ , and  $P, Q \in E(F_p)$  and  $\text{ord}(P)=n$ , compute

$R=[A]P \oplus Q$  where  $A \in [2, n-1]$  then

If  $R=O_\infty$  then  $\log_p Q = (n-A) \bmod n$ .

If  $R=P$  then  $\log_p Q = (1-A) \bmod n$ .

If  $R=\ominus P$  then  $\log_p Q = (-1-A) \bmod n$ .

### Proof:

Since  $R = [A]P \oplus Q$  then  $R = [A+k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = O_\infty$  then  $[A+k]P = O_\infty \Rightarrow A+k=n$

$$\Rightarrow A + k = n \pmod{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = (n - A) \pmod{n}.$$

Since  $R = [A]P \oplus Q$  then  $R = [A + k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = P$  then  $[A + k]P = P \Rightarrow A + k = 1$   
 $\Rightarrow A + k = 1 \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = (1 - A) \pmod{n}.$

- 3) Since  $R = [A]P \oplus Q$  then  $R = [A + k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = \ominus P$  then  $[A + k]P = \ominus P$   
 $\Rightarrow A + k = -1$   
 $\Rightarrow A + k = -1 \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = (-1 - A) \pmod{n}.$

#### Example (1)

Consider the elliptic curve  $E$  defined over  $F_{131}$  by the equation:  
 $E: y^2 = x^3 + 102x + 35.$   
 Let  $P = (100, 15) \in E(F_{131})$ . We wish to determine the discrete logarithm of point  $Q = (75, 50)$  to the base  $P$ .

#### Proposition (2)

Let  $E$  be an EC defined over the finite field  $F_p$ , and  $P, Q \in E(F_p)$  and  $\text{ord}(P) = n$ , compute  $R = P \oplus [B]Q$  where  $B \in [2, n - 1]$  then

If  $R = O_\infty$  and  $\gcd(B, n) = 1$  then  $\log_P Q = \frac{n-1}{B} \pmod{n}.$

If  $R = Q$  and  $\gcd(1-B, n) = 1$  then  $\log_P Q = \frac{1}{1-B} \pmod{n}.$

If  $R = \ominus Q$  and  $\gcd(-1-B, n) = 1$  then  $\log_P Q = \frac{1}{-1-B} \pmod{n}.$

Proof:

Since  $R = P \oplus [B]Q$  then  $R = [1 + B \cdot k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = O_\infty$  then  $[1 + B \cdot k]P = O_\infty \Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = n$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = n \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = \frac{n-1}{B} \pmod{n}.$

Solution:

The order of  $P$  is  $n = 142$ .

1) Choose  $A \in [2, n - 1]$ , let  $A = 93$  and then compute  $Z = [A]P \oplus Q = [93](100, 15) \oplus (75, 50) = (75, 81) \oplus (75, 50) = O_\infty$ , hence by Proposition (1.1) then  $k \equiv (n - A) \pmod{n} = (142 - 93) \pmod{142} = 49 \pmod{142} = 49$ . Then the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$  is 49.

2) Choose  $A \in [2, n - 1]$ , let  $A = 94$  and then compute  $Z = [16]P \oplus Q = [94](100, 15) \oplus (75, 50) = (99, 40) \oplus (75, 50) = (100, 15) = P$ , hence by Proposition (1.1) then  $k \equiv (1 - A) \pmod{n} = (1 - 94) \pmod{142} = -93 \pmod{142} = 49$ . Then the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$  is 49.

3) Choose  $A \in [2, n - 1]$ , let  $A = 92$  and then compute  $Z = [192]P \oplus Q = [92](100, 15) \oplus (75, 50) = (68, 86) \oplus (75, 50) = (100, 116) = \ominus P$ , hence by Proposition (1.3) then  $k \equiv (-1 - A) \pmod{n} = (-1 - 92) \pmod{142} = -93 \pmod{142} = 49$ . Then the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$  is 49.

Since  $R = P \oplus [B]Q$  then  $R = [1 + B \cdot k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = Q$  then  $[1 + B \cdot k]P = Q \Rightarrow [1 + B \cdot k]P = [k]P$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = k$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = k \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 = k - B \cdot k \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 = k \cdot (1 - B) \pmod{n}$

$\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = \frac{1}{1-B} \pmod{n}.$

Since  $R = P \oplus [B]Q$  then  $R = [1 + B \cdot k]P$  and since  $\text{ord}(P) = n \Rightarrow [n]P = O_\infty$ . So if  $R = \ominus Q$  then  $[1 + B \cdot k]P = \ominus Q \Rightarrow [1 + B \cdot k]P = \ominus[k]P$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = -k$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 + B \cdot k = -k \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 = -k - B \cdot k \pmod{n}$   
 $\Rightarrow 1 = k \cdot (-1 - B) \pmod{n}$

$\Rightarrow k = \log_P Q = \frac{1}{-1-B} \pmod{n}.$

#### Proposed Method

Let  $E(\mathbb{F}_p)$  be an elliptic curve with generator P.

Suppose that P has order n, and let  $Q \in E(\mathbb{F}_p)$ . Suppose that we want find k such that  $Q = [k]P$ . Calculate  $R = P \oplus Q$ . Then calculate  $[d]Q$  for  $1 \leq d \leq n-1$  and check these points until found a match with point R. When a match is found we have solved the ECDLP as following:

$[d]Q = R$  hence,

$$[d]Q = P \oplus Q$$

$$[d]Q \ominus Q = P$$

$$[d-1]Q = P$$

$$Q = \left[ \frac{1}{d-1} \right] P.$$

Therefore, if  $\gcd(d-1, n) = 1$ , we get that

$$\log_p Q = k = \frac{1}{d-1} \mod n.$$

### Example 3

Consider the elliptic curve E defined over  $\mathbb{F}_{641}$  by the equation:

Also, a new proposed method for solving the ECDLP were suggested. It can be considered as a new approach to tackle the problem of attacking the ECDLP. That is provides a reduction to mathematical operations. This leads to main conclusion that the new proposed method is batter than the Exhaustive Search in the reduction cost can be offered for complexity of calculation.

### Appendix

The Program for computing the discrete logarithm k of point  $Q = (x_2, y_2)$  to the base  $P = (x_1, y_1)$  from  $Q = [k]P$ , where  $P, Q \in E : y^2 = x^3 + ax + b$  defined over  $\mathbb{F}_p$ .

- (1) % program to find secret key k
- (2) p = input ('enter prime no. p =');
- (3) a= input('enter integer no.a=');
- (4) b = input('enter integer no.b=');
- (5) x1 = input ('enter integer no. x1=');
- (6) y1 = input ('enter integer no. y1=');
- (7) x2 = input ('enter integer no. x2 =');
- (8) y2 = input ('enter integer no. y2 =');
- (9) m1=mod(y2-y1,p);
- (10) m2=mod(x2-x1,p);
- (11) for z=1:p-1
- (12) w=mod(m2\*z,p);

$$E : y^2 = x^3 + 3x + 44.$$

Let  $P = (401, 245) \in E(\mathbb{F}_{641})$ . We wish to determine the discrete logarithm of point  $Q = (584, 405)$  to the base P.

Solution:

The order of P is  $n = 647$ . Firstly calculate  $R = P \oplus Q = (401, 245) \oplus (584, 405) = (260, 162)$

Now, calculate  $[d]Q$  for  $1 \leq d \leq 647$  until we find a match with point R as following:

$$[1]Q = [1](584, 405) = (584, 405)$$

$$[2]Q = [2](584, 405) = (25, 436)$$

$$[3]Q = [3](584, 405) = (180, 240)$$

$$[4]Q = [4](584, 405) = (332, 398)$$

⋮

$$[163]Q = [163](584, 405) = (250, 360)$$

$$[164]Q = [164](584, 405) = (260, 162)$$

At this point we have a match. Hence we find

$$\text{that } k \equiv \frac{1}{d-1} \mod n$$

- (13) if w==1;[z];
- (14) m=mod(m1\*z,p);
- (15) end,end
- (16) xR=mod(m^2-x1-x2,p);
- (17) yR=mod(m\*(x1-xR)-y1,p);
- (18) R=[xR yR];
- (19) for k=1:2\*p
- (20) r=dec2bin(k);
- (21) [row,col]=size(r);
- (22) xk=x1;
- (23) yk=y1;
- (24) for i=2:col
- (25) m1=mod(3\*xk^2+a,p);
- (26) m2=mod(2\*yk,p);
- (27) for z=1:p-1
- (28) w=mod(m2\*z,p);
- (29) if w==1;[z];m=mod(m1\*z,p);
- (30) end,end
- (31) x3=mod(m^2-2\*xk,p);
- (32) y3=mod(m\*(xk-x3)-yk,p);
- (33) s=[x3 y3];
- (34) xk=s(1);
- (35) yk=s(2);
- (36) if r(i)==49
- (37) m1=mod(yk-y1,p);
- (38) m2=mod(xk-x1,p);
- (39) for z=1:p-1

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(40)w=mod(m2*z,p);
(41) if w==1;[z];mm=mod(m1*z,p);
(42) end,end
(43)x4=mod(mm^2-x1-xk,p);
(44)y4=mod(mm*(x1-x4)-y1,p);
(45)z=[x4 y4] ;
(46)xk=z(1);
(47)yk=z(2);
(48) end,end
(49) if xk==x1 & yk~=y1
(50)n=[k+1];break
(51) end
(52)R=[xk,yk];
(53) end
(54) for d=1:n-1

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(70)yd=s(2);
(71) if r(i)==49
(72)m1=mod(yd-y2,p);
(73)m2=mod(xd-x2,p);
(74) for z=1:p-1
(75)w=mod(m2*z,p);
(76) if w==1;[z];mm=mod(m1*z,p);
(77) end,end
(78)x4=mod(mm^2-x2-xd,p);
(79)y4=mod(mm*(x2-x4)-y2,p);
(80)z=[x4 y4] ;
(81)xd=z(1);
(82)yd=z(2);
(83) end,end
(84)[xd,yd];
(85) if [xd,yd]==[xR,yR]
(86)di=d;
(87) break
(88) end,end
(89)d; r=d-1;
(90) for z=1:n-1
(91)w=mod(r*z,n);
(92) if w==1; [z]; r=1*z; inversrer=r;
(93) end,end
(94)k = mod (inversrer,n);
(95)secretkey = k

```

### Example (2)

Consider the elliptic curve  $E$  defined over  $F_{131}$  by the equation:  
 $E: y^2 = x^3 + 102x + 35$ .

```

(55)r=dec2bin(d);
(56)[row,col]=size(r);
(57)xd=x2;
(58)yd=y2;
(59) for i=2:col
(60)m1=mod(3*xd^2+a,p);
(61)m2=mod(2*yd,p);
(62) for z=1:p-1
(63)w=mod(m2*z,p);
(64) if w==1;[z];m=mod(m1*z,p);
(65) end,end
(66)x3=mod(m^2-2*xd,p);
(67)y3=mod(m*(xd-x3)-yd,p);
(68)s=[x3 y3];
(69)xd=s(1);

```

Let  $P=(100,15) \in E(F_{131})$ . We wish to determine the discrete logarithm of point  $Q=(75, 50)$  to the base  $P$ .

Solution:

The order of  $P$  is  $n=142$ .

Choose  $B \in [2, n-1]$ , let  $B=113$  and then compute  $Z=P \oplus [B]Q=(100,15) \oplus [113] (75, 50)=(100, 15) \oplus (100,116)=O_\infty$ , hence by Proposition (2.1) then  $k \equiv \frac{n-1}{B} \mod n = \frac{142-1}{113}$

$$\mod 142 = \frac{141}{113} \mod 142 = 141 \cdot 113^{-1}$$

$\mod 142 = 141 \cdot 93 \mod 142 = 13113 \mod 142 = 49$ . Then the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$  is 49.

Choose  $B \in [2, n-1]$ , let  $B=114$  and then compute  $Z=P \oplus [B]Q=(100,15) \oplus [114] (75, 50)=(100, 15) \oplus (99, 91)=(75, 50)=Q$ , hence by Proposition (2.2) then

$$k \equiv \frac{1}{1-B} \mod n = \frac{1}{1-114} \mod 142 = \frac{1}{-113} \mod$$

$$142 = \frac{1}{29} \mod 142 = 1 \cdot 29^{-1} \mod 142 = 1 \cdot 49 \mod$$

$142 = 49$ . Then the discrete logarithm of  $Q$  to the base  $P$  is 31.

Choose  $B \in [2, n-1]$ , let  $B=112$  and then compute  $Z=P \oplus [16]Q=(100,15) \oplus [112] (75,50)=(100,15) \oplus (68, 86)=(75,81)=\ominus Q$ ,

hence by Proposition (2.3) then  $k \equiv \frac{1}{-1-B} \mod$

$n = \frac{1}{-1-112} \mod 142 = \frac{1}{-113} \mod 142 = \frac{1}{29}$   
 $\mod 142 = 1 \cdot 29^{-1} \mod 142 = 1 \cdot 49 \mod 142 = 49$ .  
 Then the discrete logarithm of Q to the base P is 49.

$= \frac{1}{164-1} \mod 647 = \frac{1}{163} \mod 647 =$   
 $(1 \cdot 163^{-1}) \mod 647 = (1 \cdot 389) \mod 647 = 389$   
 Thus  $k = \log_p Q = 389$ .

### Algorithm 1

A proposed method algorithm for computing ECDLP.

### Conclusions

In this paper, we get two propositions that compute  $\log_p Q$  in E over the finite field  $F_p$  without method but with some condition. The first proposition that starts with initial point  $R = [A]P \oplus Q$  where  $A \in [2, n-1]$  such that discrete logarithm of Q to the base P in E over the finite field  $F_p$  as follows:

$$\begin{cases} (n-A) \mod n & \text{if } R = O_\infty \log_p Q = \\ (1-A) \mod n & \text{if } R = P \\ (1-A) \mod n & \text{if } R = \ominus P \end{cases}$$

The second proposition that starts with initial point  $R = P \oplus [B]Q$  where  $B \in [2, n-1]$  such that discrete logarithm of Q to the base P in E over the finite field  $F_p$  as follows:

$$\log_p Q = \begin{cases} \frac{n-1}{B} \mod n & \text{if } R = O_\infty \\ \frac{1}{1-B} \mod n & \text{if } R = Q \\ \frac{1}{-1-B} \mod n & \text{if } R = \ominus Q \end{cases}$$

INPUT: a generator P of a cyclic group  $E(F_p)$ , of order n and an point  $Q \in E(F_p)$ .

OUTPUT: the discrete logarithm  $k = \log_p Q$ .

1. Calculate  $R = P \oplus Q$ .
  2. For d from 1 to n-1 do the following :
    - 2.1 If  $R = [d]Q$  then do the following:
      - Set  $r = d - 1$
      - If  $\gcd(r, n) = 1$
- $k = r^{-1} \mod n$  and return k

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