## Counting Richelot isogenies between superspecial abelian surfaces

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## Outline

(1) Introduction
(2) Counting superspecial curves of genus 2 [IKO86]
(3) Richelot isogenies
(4) Counting Richelot isogenies between superspecial abelian surfaces
(5) Concluding remark

## Introduction: Genus-2 isogeny cryptography

- Isogenies of supersingular elliptic curves give computationally intractable problems even against quantum computers, and based on them, isogeny-based cryptosystems (CGL, SIDH, SIKE, CSIDH, ...) are now widely studied as one candidate for post-quantum cryptography.


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- Castryck, Decru, and Smith [CDS19] showed that superspecial genus-2 curves and their isogeny graphs give a correct foundation for genus-2 isogeny cryptography.
- Costello and Smith [CS20] employed the subgraph whose vertices consist of decomposed principally polarized abelian surfaces in their recent cryptanalysis.


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- Theorem 3 in [CDS19] states that the number of decomposed Richelot isogenies outgoing from a superspecial genus-2 curve $C$ is at most 6 , but they do not precisely determine this number. Moreover, their proof is computer-aided.



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- Therefore, we revisit the isogeny counting problem based on an intrinsic algebraic geometric characterization.
- Our starting point is an explicit counting of superspecial genus-2 curves by Ibukiyama, Katsura, and Oort [IKO86].

Superspecial Richelot isogeny graph


## Our results

(1) We give a new characterization of decomposed Richelot isogenies outgoing from a nonsingular genus-2 curve $C$ in terms of "long" elements (of order 2) in the reduced group of automorphisms RA $(C)$.

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- It not only implies another algebraic geometric proof of Theorem 3 in [CDS19], but also shows the number of decomposed Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism is at most 2.
(3) We also count the total number of Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism between principally polarized superspecial abelian surfaces.
- While [IKO86] counts the total number of vertices of the superspecial Richelot isogeny graphs, the above result is related to the edge counting in the graphs of cryptographic interest (see [JZ20] for their connectivity).


## Superspecial abelian surfaces

- Let $k$ be an algebraically closed field of characteristic $p>5$.

An abelian surface $A$ defined over $k$ is said to be superspecial if $A$ is isomorphic to $E_{1} \times E_{2}$ with $E_{i}$ supersingular elliptic curves $(i=1,2)$.

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- Since we have an isomorphism $E_{1} \times E_{2} \cong E_{3} \times E_{4}$ for any supersingular elliptic curves $E_{i}(i=1,2,3,4)$ (cf. [Shi79]), this notion does not depend on the choice of supersingular elliptic curves.


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- For a nonsingular projective curve $C$ of genus 2 over $k$, we denote by $J(C)$ the (canonically polarized) Jacobian variety of $C$.
The curve $C$ is said to be superspecial if the Jacobian variety $J(C)$ is superspecial as an abelian surface (without polarization).


## Reduced groups of automorphisms

- Let $\iota \in \operatorname{Aut}(C)$ be the hyperelliptic involution. We put $\operatorname{RA}(C)=\operatorname{Aut}(C) /\langle\iota\rangle$ and we call it the reduced group of automorphisms of $C$ and an element of $\mathrm{RA}(C)$ a reduced automorphism of $C$, respectively.
- For $\sigma \in \operatorname{RA}(C), \tilde{\sigma}$ is an element of $\operatorname{Aut}(C)$ such that $\tilde{\sigma} \bmod \langle\iota\rangle=\sigma$.


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## Definition (Long and short elements, cf. Katsura-Oort [KO87])

An element $\sigma \in \operatorname{RA}(C)$ of order 2 is said to be long if $\tilde{\sigma}$ is of order 2 . Otherwise, it is said to be short.

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Otherwise, it is said to be short.
This definition does not depend on the choice of $\tilde{\sigma}$.

- The structure of $\operatorname{RA}(C)$ is classified as follows:

$$
\text { (0) } 0, \quad \text { (1) } \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}, \quad \text { (2) } S_{3}, \quad(3) \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}, \quad \text { (4) } D_{12}, \quad \text { (5) } S_{4}, \quad \text { (6) } \mathbf{Z} / 5 \mathbf{Z}
$$

## Counting superspecial curves of genus 2 [IKO86]

We denote by $n_{i}$ the number of superspecial curves $C$ of genus 2 whose $\mathrm{RA}(C)$ is isomorphic to the group $(i)$, and $n$ the total number of such curves.
(0) $n_{0}=(p-1)\left(p^{2}-35 p+346\right) / 2880-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 32-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 8-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 9$

$$
+ \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } p \equiv 1,2 \operatorname{or} 3(\bmod 5) \\ -1 / 5 & \text { if } p \equiv 4(\bmod 5)\end{cases}
$$

(1) $n_{1}=(p-1)(p-17) / 48+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 8+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 2+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 2$,
(2) $n_{2}=(p-1) / 6-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 2-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 3$,
(3) $n_{3}=(p-1) / 8-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 8-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 4-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 2$,
(4) $n_{4}=\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 2$, (5) $n_{5}=\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 2$, (6) $n_{6}= \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } p \equiv 1,2 \operatorname{or} 3(\bmod 5), \\ 1 & \text { if } p \equiv 4(\bmod 5) .\end{cases}$

- $n=n_{0}+n_{1}+n_{2}+n_{3}+n_{4}+n_{5}+n_{6}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
& =(p-1)\left(p^{2}+25 p+166\right) / 2880-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 32+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 8 \\
& +\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 18+ \begin{cases}0 & \text { if } p \equiv 1,2 \text { or } 3(\bmod 5), \\
4 / 5 & \text { if } p \equiv 4(\bmod 5) .\end{cases}
\end{aligned}
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## Richelot isogenies

- Let $A$ be an abelian surface with a principal polarization $C$.

There are two cases for such $(A, C)$ (shown by A. Weil).
(1) There exists a nonsingular curve $C$ of genus 2 in $A$ s.t. $A \cong J(C)$ and $C$ is the divisor with self-intersection $C^{2}=2$. In this case, $(J(C), C)$ is said to be non-decomposed.
(2) There exist two elliptic curves $E_{1}, E_{2}$ in $A$ with $\left(E_{1} \cdot E_{2}\right)=1$ s.t. $A \cong E_{1} \times E_{2}$ and $C=E_{1} \times\{0\}+\{0\} \times E_{2}$ is a divisor with self-intersection 2 . In this case, $(A, C)$ is said to be decomposed. We denote by $E_{1}+E_{2}$ the divisor $E_{1} \times\{0\}+\{0\} \times E_{2}$.

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- Let $G \cong \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}$ be a maximal isotropic subgroup of $A[2]$ with respect to the Weil pairing. We have a quotient homomorphism $\pi: A \longrightarrow A / G$.
- By the standard descent theorem, there exists a divisor $C^{\prime}$ on $A / G$ s.t. $2 C \sim \pi^{*} C^{\prime}$. We see that $C^{\prime}$ is a principal polarization on $A / G$ and that $C^{\prime}$ is either a nonsingular curve of genus 2 or $E_{1}^{\prime}+E_{2}^{\prime}$ with elliptic curves $E_{1}^{\prime}, E_{2}^{\prime}$ and $\left(E_{1}^{\prime} \cdot E_{2}^{\prime}\right)=1$.
- $D \sim D^{\prime}$ means linear equivalence for divisors $D$ and $D^{\prime}$.


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The correspondence from $(A, C)$ to $\left(A / G, C^{\prime}\right)$ is called a Richelot isogeny. It is called decomposed if $C^{\prime}$ consists of two elliptic curves. Otherwise, it is called non-decomposed.

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- If there exists a Richelot isogeny from $(A, C)$ to $\left(A / G, C^{\prime}\right)$, then there exists a Richelot isogeny from $\left(A / G, C^{\prime}\right)$ to $(A, C)$.
- Since $\pi$ is separable, when $A$ is superspecial, $A / G$ is also superspecial.


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## Definition (Isomorphism of Richelot isogenies)

Let $(A, C),\left(A^{\prime}, C^{\prime}\right)$ and $\left(A^{\prime \prime}, C^{\prime \prime}\right)$ be principally polarized abelian surfaces. The Richelot isogeny $\pi: A \longrightarrow A^{\prime}$ is said to be isomorphic to the Richelot isogeny $\varpi: A \longrightarrow A^{\prime \prime}$ if there exist an automorphism $\sigma \in \operatorname{Aut}(A)$ with $\sigma^{*} C \approx C$ and an isomorphism $g: A^{\prime} \longrightarrow A^{\prime \prime}$ with $g^{*} C^{\prime \prime} \approx C^{\prime}$ s.t. the right diagram commutes:


- $D \approx D^{\prime}$ means numerical equivalence for divisors $D$ and $D^{\prime}$.


## Characterization of decomposed Richelot isog. by long elements

## Proposition (Characterization of decomposed Richelot isog. by long elements)

For a nonsingular projective curve $C$ of genus 2 , the following 3 conditions are equivalent.
(1) has a decomposed Richelot isogeny outgoing from $J(C)$.
(2) $\mathrm{RA}(C)$ has an element of order 2 .
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(3) $\mathrm{RA}(C)$ has a long element of order 2 .


## Proposition

Let $C$ be a nonsingular projective superspecial curve of genus 2. Among 15 Richelot isogenies outgoing from $J(C)$, the number of decomposed Richelot isogenies is equal to the number of long elements of $\mathrm{RA}(C)$ of order 2 .

We denote the set of long elements in $\operatorname{RA}(C)$ by $\mathrm{L}(\mathrm{C})$.

## Classification of long elements $\mathrm{L}(C)$ for each $\mathrm{RA}(C)$

- Long elements $f \in \mathrm{~L}(C)(\subset \mathrm{RA}(C))$ are given by the action $f: x \mapsto f(x)$ on $x$-coord.
- This result $\# \mathrm{~L}(C) \leq 6$ coincides with Theorem 3 in [CDS19].
$\left.\begin{array}{|c||l|c|l|}\hline \operatorname{RA}(C) & \text { genus-2 curve } C & \# \mathrm{~L}(C) & f(x) \\ \hline \hline 0 & - & 0 & - \\ \hline \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} & y^{2}=\left(x^{2}-1\right)\left(x^{2}-a^{2}\right)\left(x^{2}-b^{2}\right) & 1 & f(x)=-x \\ \hline S_{3} & y^{2}=\left(x^{3}-1\right)\left(x^{3}-a^{3}\right) & 3 & f(x)=\frac{a}{x}, \frac{\omega a}{x}, \frac{\omega^{2} a}{x} \\ \hline \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} & y^{2}=x\left(x^{2}-1\right)\left(x^{2}-a^{2}\right) & 2 & f(x)=\frac{a}{x}, \frac{-a}{x} \\ \hline D_{12} & y^{2}=x^{6}-1 & 4 & f(x)=-x, \frac{\zeta}{x}, \frac{\zeta^{3}}{x}, \frac{\zeta^{5}}{x} \\ \hline S_{4} & y^{2}=x\left(x^{4}-1\right) & 6 & \begin{array}{c}f(x)=\frac{x+1}{x-1},-\frac{x-1}{x+1}, \frac{i(x+i)}{x-i}, \\ x\end{array},-\frac{i}{x},-\frac{i(x-i)}{x+i}\end{array}\right]$

Here, we denote by $\omega, i, \zeta$ a primitive cube, fourth, sixth root of unity, respectively.

## Counting Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism in characteristic 7

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- Assume the characteristic $p=7$.
- only one supersingular $E_{2}: y^{2}=x^{3}-x \quad\left(\operatorname{RA}\left(E_{2}\right) \cong \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}\right)$,

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- only one superspecial $C: y^{2}=x\left(x^{4}-1\right) \quad\left(\operatorname{RA}(C) \cong S_{4}\right)$.
- The number of Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism outgoing from $C$ : 4 Richelot isogenies, 1 decomposed one, local type: $(1 \times 1,4 \times 2)(6 \times 1)$.
- $(1 \times 1,4 \times 2)(6 \times 1)$ means that there exist for non-decomposed Richelot isogenies,
- 1 orbit which contains 1 element
- 2 orbits which contain 4 elements and for decomposed Richelot isogenies,
- 1 orbit which contains 6 elements.



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(0) $\operatorname{RA}(C) \cong\{0\}$ : 15 Richelot isogenies. No decomposed one. $(1 \times 15)(0)$.
(1) $\mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}$ : 11 Richelot isogenies. 1 decomposed one. $(1 \times 6,2 \times 4)(1 \times 1)$.
(2) $S_{3}: 7$ Richelot isogenies. 1 decomposed one. $(1 \times 3,3 \times 3)(3 \times 1)$.
(3) $\mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}$ : 8 Richelot isogenies. 2 decomposed ones. $(1 \times 1,2 \times 4,4 \times 1)(1 \times 2)$.
(4) $D_{12}$ : 5 Richelot isogenies. 2 decomposed ones. $(2 \times 1,3 \times 1,6 \times 1)(1 \times 1,3 \times 1)$.
(5) $S_{4}: 4$ Richelot isogenies. 1 decomposed one. $(1 \times 1,4 \times 2)(6 \times 1)$.
(6) $\mathbf{Z} / 5 \mathbf{Z}: 3$ Richelot isogenies. No decomposed one. $(5 \times 3)(0)$.

## The total number of Richelot isog. from irreducible genus-2 curves

Let $N_{\mathrm{nd} \rightarrow \mathrm{d}}\left(\mathrm{resp} . N_{\mathrm{nd} \rightarrow \mathrm{nd}}\right)$ be the total number of decomposed (resp. non-decomposed) Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism outgoing from the irreducible superspecial curves of genus 2, and $N_{\text {nd }}=N_{\text {nd } \rightarrow \mathrm{d}}+N_{\text {nd } \rightarrow \text { nd }}$ the total number of such Richelot isog. up to isom.
Theorem (The total number of Richelot isogenies from $J(C)$ )

$$
\begin{aligned}
N_{\mathrm{nd}} & =15 n_{0}+11 n_{1}+7 n_{2}+8 n_{3}+5 n_{4}+4 n_{5}+3 n_{6} \\
& =\frac{(p-1)(p+2)(p+7)}{192}-3\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 32+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-2}{p}\right)\right\} / 8, \\
N_{\mathrm{nd} \rightarrow \mathrm{~d}} & =n_{1}+n_{2}+2 n_{3}+2 n_{4}+n_{5} \\
& =\frac{(p-1)(p+3)}{48}-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 8+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 6 .
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We also give the number of Richelot isogenies up to isomorphism outgoing from a decomposed pp superspecial abelian surface，the number of elements in each orbit，and the total number of such Richelot isog．up to isom．

## Concluding remark

- Our results clarified a concrete situation on decomposed Richelot isogenies, and it gave a firm understanding of the isogeny graphs in genus-2 isogeny cryptography. Further application of our results to cryptography is left as an open problem.


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We hope that our new characterization can be applied to analysing and/or improving the Costello-Smith attack.


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Thank you for your attention!

## References I

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## Appendices

## Counting Richelot isogenies from products of elliptic curves

Let $E_{2}: y^{2}=x^{3}-x(p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)), E_{3}: y^{2}=x^{3}-1(p \equiv 2(\bmod 3))$ and $E$, $E^{\prime}$ be two non-isomorphic supersingular elliptic curves which are neither isomorphic to $E_{2}$ nor to $E_{3}$.

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## Proposition

The number of Richelot isog. up to isom. outgoing from a decomposed pp superspecial abelian surface and the number of elements in each orbit are listed as follows.

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## Proposition

The number of Richelot isog. up to isom. outgoing from a decomposed pp superspecial abelian surface and the number of elements in each orbit are listed as follows.
(i) $E \times E^{\prime}: 15$ Richelot isogenies, 6 non-decomposed ones. $(1 \times 6)(1 \times 9)$.
(ii) $E \times E: 11$ Richelot isogenies, 4 non-decomposed ones. $(1 \times 3,2 \times 1)(1 \times 4,2 \times 3)$.
(iii) $E \times E_{2}: 9$ Richelot isog., 3 non-decomp. ones $(p \equiv 3(\bmod 4)) . \quad(2 \times 3)(1 \times 3,2 \times 3)$.
(iv) $E \times E_{3}: 5$ Richelot isog., 2 non-decomp. ones $(p \equiv 2(\bmod 3)) . \quad(3 \times 2)(3 \times 3)$.
(v) $E_{2} \times E_{2}: 5$ Richelot isog., 1 non-decomp. one $(p \equiv 3(4))$. $(4 \times 1)(1 \times 1,2 \times 1,4 \times 2)$.
(vi) $E_{3} \times E_{3}: 3$ Richelot isog., 1 non-decomp. one $(p \equiv 2(\bmod 3)) . \quad(3 \times 1)(3 \times 1,9 \times 1)$.
(vii) $E_{2} \times E_{3}: 3$ Richelot isog., 1 non-decomp. one $(p \equiv 11(12)) . \quad(6 \times 1)(3 \times 1,6 \times 1)$.

## The total number of Richelot isog. from products of elliptic curves

## Theorem (The total number of Richelot isogenies from elliptic curve products)

The total number of non-decomposed Richelot isogenies $N_{\mathrm{d} \rightarrow \text { nd }}$ (resp. decomposed Richelot isogenies $N_{\mathrm{d} \rightarrow \mathrm{d}}$ ) up to isomorphism outgoing from decomposed principally polorized superspecial abelian surfaces is equal to

$$
\begin{aligned}
N_{\mathrm{d} \rightarrow \mathrm{nd}} & =\frac{(p-1)(p+3)}{48}-\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 8+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 6, \\
N_{\mathrm{d} \rightarrow \mathrm{~d}} & =\frac{(p-1)(3 p+17)}{96}+(p+6)\left\{1-\left(\frac{-1}{p}\right)\right\} / 16+\left\{1-\left(\frac{-3}{p}\right)\right\} / 3 .
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## Remark

The number of decomposed Richelot isogenies $N_{\text {nd } \rightarrow \mathrm{d}}$ from irreducible curves $=$ the number of non-decomposed Richelot isogenies $N_{\mathrm{d} \rightarrow \text { nd }}$ from elliptic curve products

## Example in characteristic 13

Assume the characteristic $p=13$.

- $C_{1}: y^{2}=\left(x^{3}-1\right)\left(x^{3}+4-\sqrt{2}\right)\left(\mathrm{RA}\left(C_{1}\right) \cong S_{3}\right)$, type of R. isog. outgoing from $C_{1}$ : $(1 \times 3,3 \times 3)(3 \times 1)$.



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- $C_{2}: y^{2}=x\left(x^{2}-1\right)\left(x^{2}+5+2 \sqrt{6}\right)$ $\left(\operatorname{RA}\left(C_{2}\right) \cong \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z} \times \mathbf{Z} / 2 \mathbf{Z}\right)$, type of R. isog. outgoing from $C_{2}$ :

$$
(1 \times 1,2 \times 4,4 \times 1)(1 \times 2) .
$$

- $C_{3}: y^{2}=x\left(x^{4}-1\right) \quad\left(\mathrm{RA}\left(C_{3}\right) \cong S_{4}\right)$, $(1 \times 1,4 \times 2)(6 \times 1)$.



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$$
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$$

- $C_{3}: y^{2}=x\left(x^{4}-1\right) \quad\left(\mathrm{RA}\left(C_{3}\right) \cong S_{4}\right)$, $(1 \times 1,4 \times 2)(6 \times 1)$.
- $E: y^{2}=x(x-1)(x-3+2 \sqrt{2})(\operatorname{RA}(E) \cong\{0\})$, type of R. isog. outgoing from $E \times E$ :

$$
(1 \times 3,2 \times 1)(1 \times 4,2 \times 3)
$$



## Example in characteristic 11

- $C_{1}: y^{2}=\left(x^{3}-1\right)\left(x^{3}-3\right)\left(\mathrm{RA}\left(C_{1}\right) \cong S_{3}\right)$, type of R . isog. outgoing from $C_{1}$ : $(1 \times 3,3 \times 3)(3 \times 1)$.
- $C_{2}: y^{2}=x^{6}-1 \quad\left(\mathrm{RA}\left(C_{2}\right) \cong D_{12}\right)$, type of R. isog. outgoing from $C_{2}$ : $(2 \times 1,3 \times 1,6 \times 1)(1 \times 1,3 \times 1)$.



## Example in characteristic 11

- $C_{1}: y^{2}=\left(x^{3}-1\right)\left(x^{3}-3\right)\left(\operatorname{RA}\left(C_{1}\right) \cong S_{3}\right)$, type of R. isog. outgoing from $C_{1}$ :

$$
(1 \times 3,3 \times 3)(3 \times 1)
$$

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- type of R. isog. outgoing from $E_{2} \times E_{2}$ : $(4 \times 1)(1 \times 1,2 \times 1,4 \times 2)$.
- type of R. isog. outgoing from $E_{3} \times E_{3}$ : $(3 \times 1)(3 \times 1,6 \times 1)$.
- type of R. isog. outgoing from $E_{2} \times E_{3}$ :


$$
(6 \times 1)(3 \times 1,6 \times 1)
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