# Towards a Quantum-Resistant Weak Verifiable Delay Function

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Isogenies in dimension











#### Isogenies in dimension

#### Requirements:

- deg( $\phi_1$ ) = deg( $\psi_1$ )
- $deg(\phi_2) = deg(\psi_2)$
- $N = \deg(\phi_1) + \deg(\phi_2)$  is smooth in practice,  $N = 2^n$

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• evaluation of  $\phi_1$  and  $\phi_2$  at the *N* -torsion

## Verifiable Delay Functions



## Verifiable Delay Functions

**Properties** 

- Correctness: an honest metamorphosis will always pass Verify
- Soundness: given a caterpillar, we can't find another butterfly that passes Verify
- Sequentiality: metamorphosis can't happen faster than t

Weak VDF: more parallel capabilities

## Our VDF

#### **General Idea:**

- Compute an isogeny φ between elliptic curves that requires a huge computation
- Verify φ via an efficient two-dimensional isogeny

Hard-to-compute isogeny:

- Kernel generator defined over big extension field
- Large prime degree

Verification of this hard-to-compute isogeny: We cannot check that the kernel of this isogeny has been honestly generated

## Skipping the kernel check

Solution:

We can restrict ourselves to isogenies defined over the prime field  $F_p$  - so called horizontal isogenies There are only two horizontal isogenies of (certain) prime degree.

Historical note: Horizontal isogenies are the isogenies underlying CSIDH

Castryck, W., Lange, T., Martindale, C., Panny, L., Renes, J. (2018). CSIDH: An Efficient Post-Quantum Commutative Group Action. In: Peyrin, T., Galbraith, S. (eds) Advances in Cryptology – ASIACRYPT 2018. ASIACRYPT 2018. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, vol 11274. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-03332-3\_15

#### Our VDF - Eval



#### Our VDF - Verify







#### Conclusions

#### Limitations:

- The endomorphism ring of the input curve must be unknown
- The size of *p* must be quite big to prevent quantum attacks
- Significant parallelism required in Eval

#### Strengths:

- First completely algebraic quantumresistant VDF
- Useful framework, e.g. VRF [1]
- Constructive application of SIDH attacks
- Expected fast verification