

# Cryptanalyses de logarithmes discrets

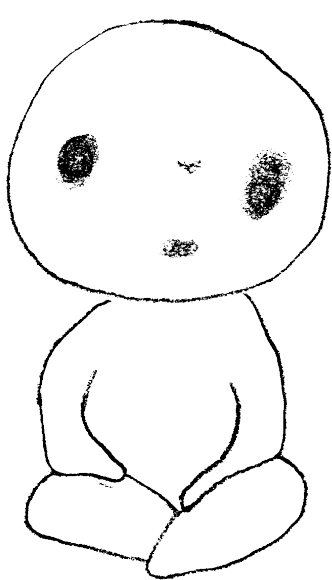
*Journées de la sécurité GDR 2022*

*Gabrielle De Micheli*

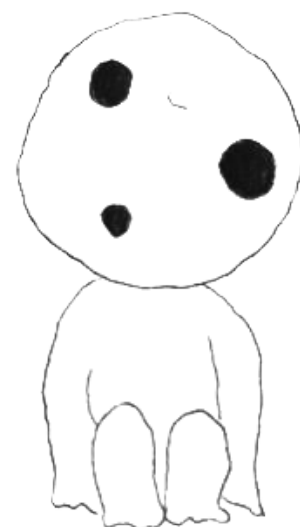
*Université de Californie, San Diego*

*Joint work with Pierrick Gaudry and Cécile Pierrot*

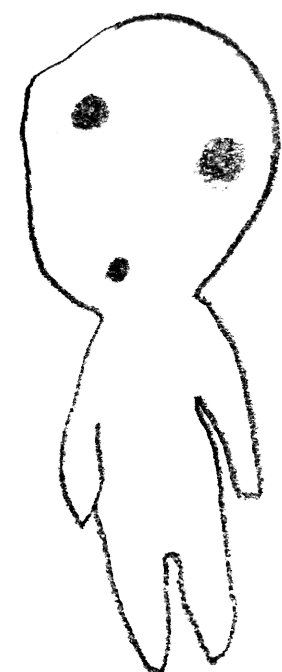
# Hard problems for Cryptography



Secure communication



Use (hopefully) **intractable problems** to construct cryptographic primitives.



**Eavesdropper**

Start from...

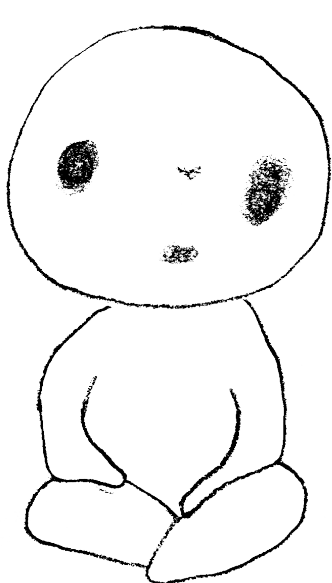
- factorisation
- discrete logarithm
- lattice problems
- isogeny problems
- ...



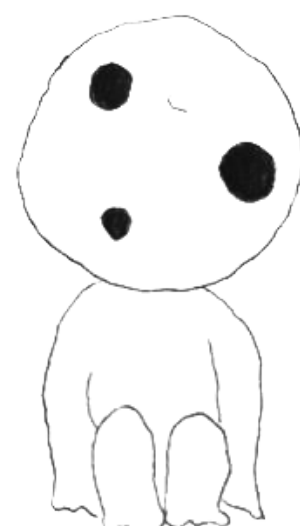
... to obtain:

- encryption schemes
- signature schemes
- hash functions
- ...

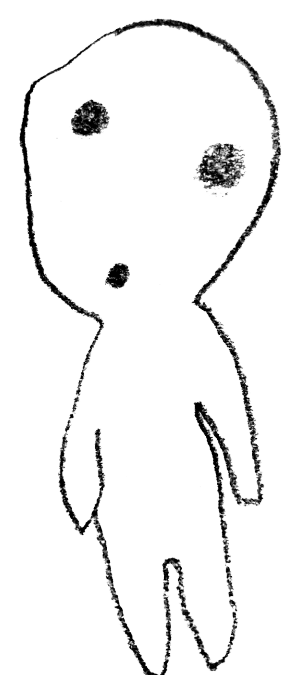
# Hard problems for Cryptography



Secure communication



Use (hopefully) **intractable problems** to construct cryptographic primitives.



Eavesdropper

Start from...

- factorisation
- **discrete logarithm**
- lattice problems
- isogeny problems
- ...

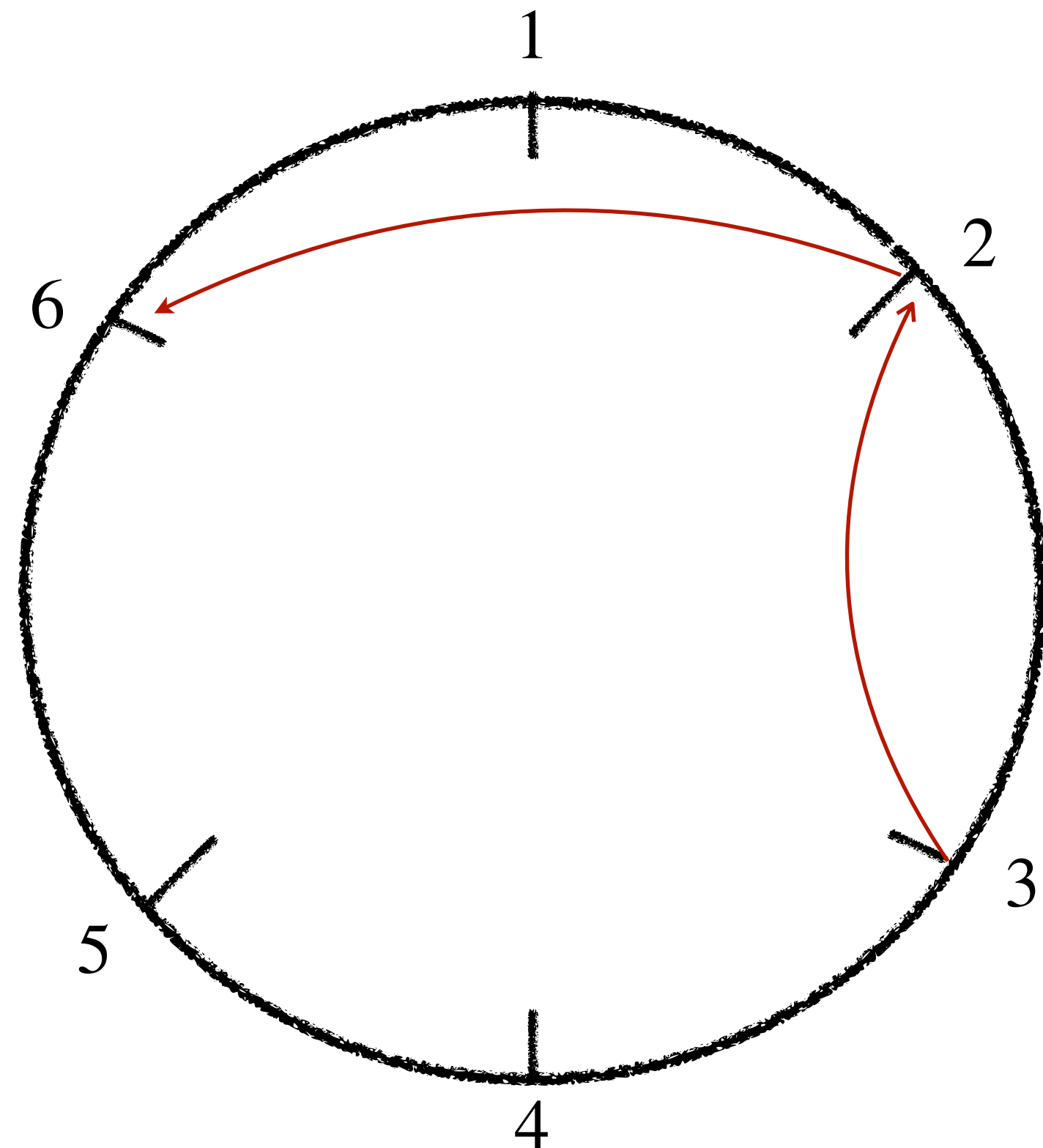


... to obtain:

- encryption schemes
- signature schemes
- hash functions
- ...

# What is a discrete logarithm?

**Definition:** Given a finite cyclic group  $G$  of order  $n$ , a generator  $g \in G$  and some element  $h \in G$ , the discrete logarithm of  $h$  in base  $g$  is the element  $x \in [0, n)$  such that  $g^x = h$ .



**Example:**  $G = \mathbb{Z}_7^\times$ ,  $g = 3$ ,  
 $h = 6 \in \mathbb{Z}_7^\times$ ,

$$g^1 \equiv 3 \pmod{7}$$

$$g^2 = 9 \equiv 2 \pmod{7}$$

$$g^3 = 27 \equiv 6 \pmod{7}$$

The discrete logarithm of  $h$  in base  $g$  is 3.

# The discrete logarithm problem (DLP)

**Definition:** Given a finite cyclic group  $G$  of order  $n$ , a generator  $g \in G$  and some element  $h \in G$ , **find** the element  $x \in [0, n)$  such that  $g^x = h$ .

Computing the inverse, a **modular exponentiation** is easy:

algorithms in  $O(\log(x))$

$$g^x = \underbrace{g \cdot g \cdot \cdots \cdot g}_x$$

Solving DLP can be **hard** (depending on the group  $G$ ):

$$h = \underbrace{g \cdot g \cdot \cdots \cdot g}_{??}$$

# Why do we care about discrete logarithms?

Many protocols use **modular exponentiation** where the exponent is a secret.

Example 1: Diffie-Hellman key exchange [DH76]

- Public data:  $g, g^a, g^b \in G$
- Shared key:  $g^{ab} \in G$

*Ephemeral Diffie Hellman*



**Technical Details**

Connection Encrypted (TLS\_ECDHE\_RSA\_WITH\_AES\_128\_GCM\_SHA256, 128 bit keys, TLS 1.2)

Example 2: pairing-based protocols

- Identity-based encryption/signature schemes [BF01], [CC03]
- Short signature schemes (eg, BLS signatures [BLS01])

Security based on assumptions that become false if **DLP is broken**.

[DH76]: W. Diffie, M. Hellman, New directions in cryptography. Trans. Info. Theory, 1976

[BF01]: D. Boneh, M. Franklin, Identity-based encryption from Weil pairing. Crypto'01

[CC03]: J. Cha, J. Cheon, An identity-based signature from gap Diffie-Hellman groups. PKC'03

[BLS01]: D. Boneh, B. Lynn, H. Shacham, Short signatures from the Weil pairing. Asiacrypt'01

# In my work

*How can we assess the security of protocols in which a modular exponentiation involving a secret exponent is performed?*

- Estimate the **hardness of DLP** in the groups considered by the protocols.
- Look at **implementation vulnerabilities** during fast exponentiation.

# An example: EPID protocol in Intel SGX

- **What is EPID?** a protocol to allow remote attestation of a hardware platform without compromising the device's identity.
- The protocol includes a **signing algorithm** that uses pairings.
  - secret key includes the element  $f \in_R \mathbb{Z}_q$
- How can we **recover  $f$** ?
  - During the protocol, consider a random secret nonce  $r \in \mathbb{Z}_q$
  - Compute an exponentiation  $X^r$
  - Outputs the element  $s \leftarrow r + cf$  ( $c = \text{hash of known values}$ )



# How can we recover the secret $f$ ?

Since  $s \leftarrow r + cf$ , if we recover  $r$ , we directly get  $f$ .

The protocol uses a 256-bit elliptic curve  $F_{p^{256}BN}$  (embedding degree 12).

If we have as target  $X^r$ :

1. Solve DLP to find exponent  $r$  in 3072-bit finite field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^{12}}$ .
2. Look at implementation vulnerabilities during the computation of  $X^r$ .

# In my work

*How can we assess the security of protocols in which a modular exponentiation involving a secret exponent is performed?*

- Estimate the **hardness of DLP** in the groups considered by the protocols.
- ~~Look at **implementation vulnerabilities** during fast exponentiation.~~

# The discrete logarithm problem over finite fields

**Definition:** Given a finite cyclic group  $G$  of order  $n$ , a generator  $g \in G$  and some element  $h \in G$ , find the element  $x \in [0, n)$  such that  $g^x = h$ .

What group  $G$  should be considered?

~~$(\mathbb{Z}/n\mathbb{Z}, +)$~~

- Prime finite fields  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times$
- Finite fields  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}^\times$
- Elliptic curves over finite fields  $\mathcal{E}(\mathbb{F}_p)$
- Genus 2 hyperelliptic curves

# The discrete logarithm problem over finite fields

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# Evaluating the hardness of DLP over $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$

- Many different algorithms to solve DLP in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$ .
- Their complexities depend on the relation between the characteristic  $p$  and the extension degree  $n$ .

A useful notation: the L-notation

$$L_{p^n}(\alpha, c) = \exp((c + o(1)) \log(p^n)^\alpha \log \log(p^n)^{1-\alpha})$$

for  $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$  and  $c > 0$ .

For complexities:

- When  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  :  $\exp(c \log \log p^n) \approx (\log p^n)^c$ , polynomial-time

- When  $\alpha \rightarrow 1$  :  $p^{cn}$ , exponential-time

In the middle: **subexponential-time**

# Three families of finite fields

Finite field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$  with  $p = L_{p^n}(\alpha, c)$



- Different algorithms are used in the different areas.
- Algorithms don't have the same complexity in each area.

# Index calculus algorithms

Consider a finite field  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}$

**Factor basis:**  $\mathcal{F}$  = small set of small elements

Three main steps:

- **Relation collection:** find relations between the elements of  $\mathcal{F}$ .
- **Linear algebra:** solve a system of linear equations where the **unknowns** are the **discrete logarithms of the elements of  $\mathcal{F}$** .
- **Individual logarithm/Descent:** for a target element  $h \in \mathbb{F}_{p^n}^\times$ , compute the discrete logarithm of  $h$ .

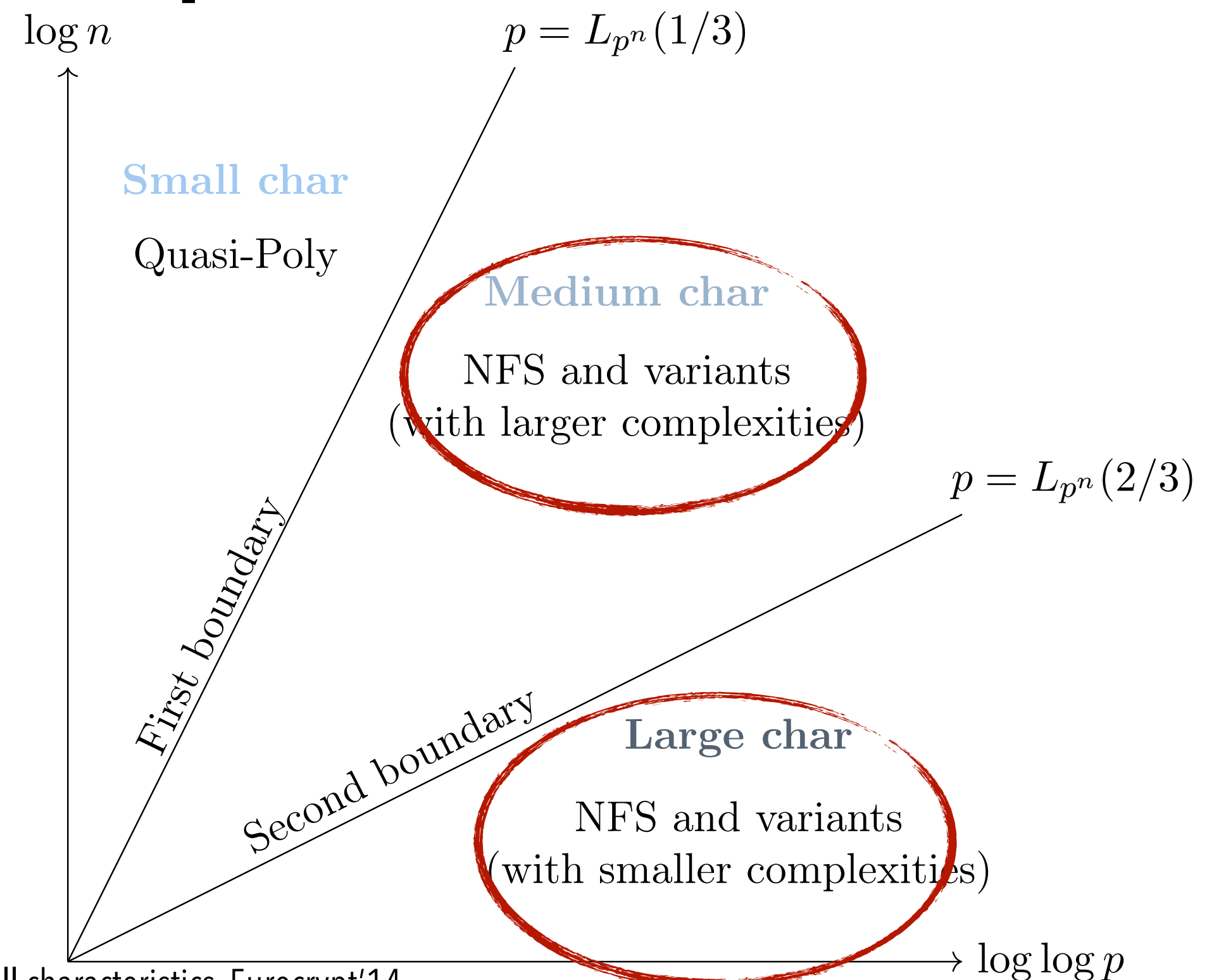
# A lot of algorithms

- **Small characteristics:** Quasi-Polynomial algorithms [BGJT14, KW19] (with only a descent step) and Function Field Sieve [Adl94]
- **Medium and large characteristics:** Number Field Sieve (NFS) [Gor93] and its variants

We focus on medium and large characteristic finite fields.

Why?

Finite fields used in practice for example  $\mathbb{F}_{p^6}$  for MNT-6 elliptic curves in zk-SNARKS.



[Adl94]: L. Adleman, The Function Field Sieve. ANTS'94

[Gor98]: D. Gordon, Discrete Logarithms in GF(P) Using the Number Field Sieve. Journal on Discrete Mathematics'93

[BGJT14]: R. Barbulescu, P. Gaudry, A. Joux, E. Thomé, A heuristic quasi-polynomial time algorithm for discrete logarithm in finite fields of small characteristics. Eurocrypt'14

[KW19]: T. Kleinjung, B. Wesolowski, Discrete logarithms in quasi-polynomial time in finite fields of fixed characteristic. 2019



# Why do we do record computations?

It is important to choose the **right key size**.

- Too large: needlessly expensive computations
- Too small: insecure

| Agency | Date      | Size of group | Size of key |
|--------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| NIST   | 2019-2030 | 2048          | 224         |
|        | > 2030    | 3072          | 256         |
| ANSSI  | 2021-2030 | 2048          | 200         |
|        | > 2030    | 3072          | 200         |

Running-time of discrete logarithm algorithms is **hard to predict**.

Record computations provide information for assessing key lifetime.

# A first record computation with exTNFS

- Why did we choose exTNFS?

$$n = \eta\kappa$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^n} = \mathbb{F}_{p^{\eta\kappa}} = \mathbb{F}_{p^\kappa}$$

| Specificity                   | Algorithm     | Medium characteristic                      | 2nd boundary | Large characteristic |
|-------------------------------|---------------|--|--------------|----------------------|
| None                          | NFS           | 96   | 48           | 64                   |
|                               | MNFS          | 89.45                                      | 45.00        | 61.93                |
|                               | TNFS          | –  | –            | 64                   |
|                               | MTNFS         | –  | –            | 61.93                |
| Composite $n$                 | <b>exTNFS</b> | <b>48</b>                                  | –            | –                    |
|                               | MexTNFS       | 45.00                                      | –            | –                    |
| Special $p$                   | SNFS          | $64\left(\frac{\lambda+1}{\lambda}\right)$ | ★            | 32                   |
|                               | STNFS         | –  | –            | 32                   |
| Composite $n$ and special $p$ | SexTNFS       | 32   | ★            | 32                   |

- Main difficulty: relation collection in dimension  $> 2$ .

# Collecting relations in TNFS

- **Relation collection:** find relations between the elements of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

More precisely, what does this mean? What is a relation? Who is  $\mathcal{F}$ ?

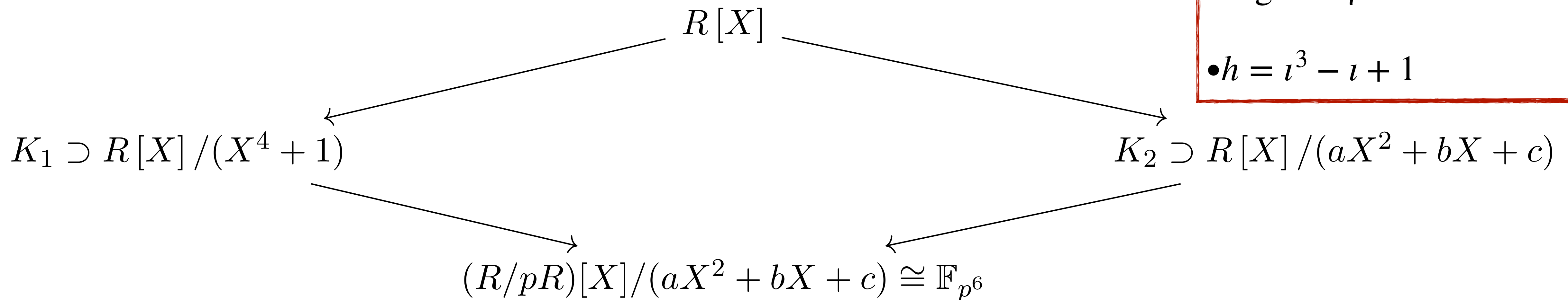
For TNFS:  $R = \mathbb{Z}[\iota]/h(\iota)$

In our computation:

- $n = 6 = 3 \times 2$

- $\deg h = \eta = 3$

- $h = \iota^3 - \iota + 1$



# Collecting relations in TNFS

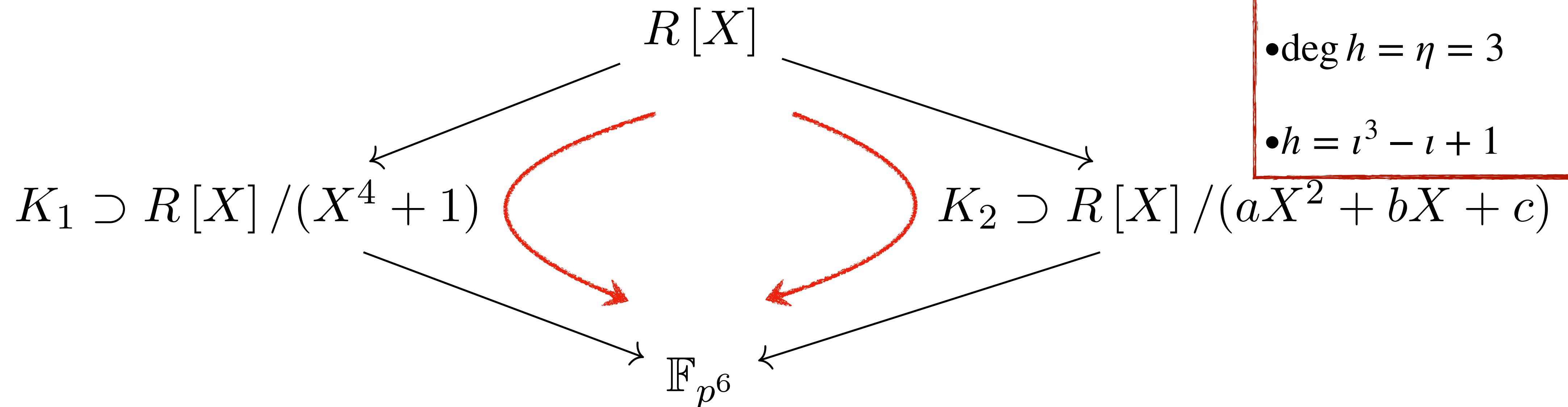
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In our computation:

- $n = 6 = 3 \times 2$
- $\deg h = \eta = 3$
- $h = \iota^3 - \iota + 1$



# Collecting relations in TNFS: what is a relation?

$$R = \mathbb{Z}[\iota]/(\iota^3 - \iota + 1)$$

$$\phi(\iota, X) = a(\iota) - b(\iota)X \in R[X]$$

$$K_1 \supset R[X]/(X^4 + 1)$$

$$K_2 \supset R[X]/(aX^2 + bX + c)$$

$$\phi(\iota, \alpha_1) = a(\iota) - b(\iota)\alpha_1$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^6}$$

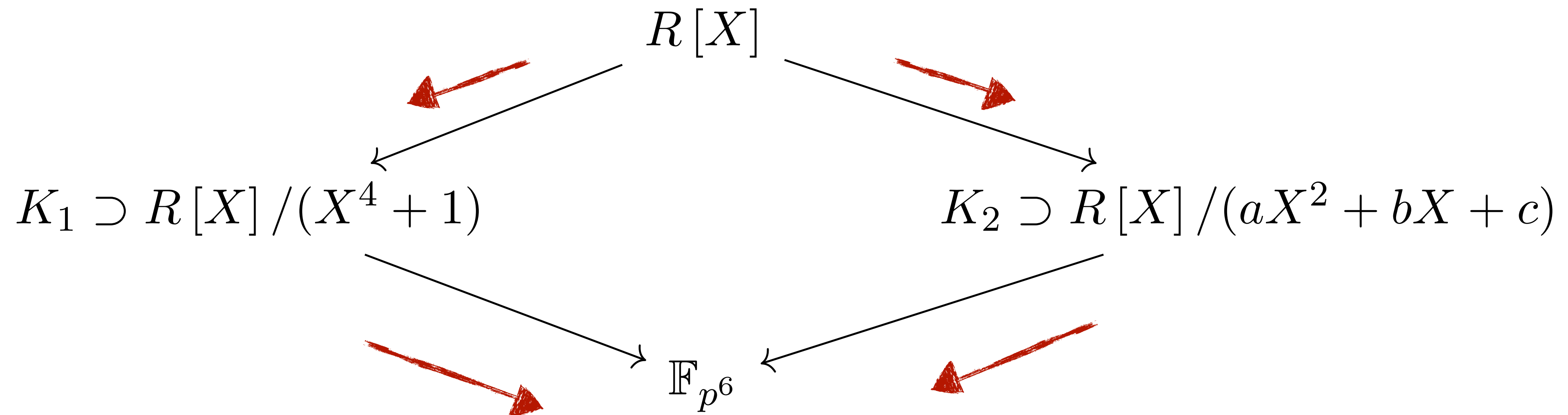
Test  $N(\phi(\iota, \alpha_1))$  for B-smoothness:

Equality in finite field = Relation

→ prime factors smaller than B

# Collecting relations in TNFS: what is a relation?

- **Relation collection:** find relations between the elements of  $\mathcal{F}$ .



Who is  $\mathcal{F}$  ?

Prime ideals of small norm in the ring of integers of the intermediate number fields

$$\prod p_i^{e_i} \approx \prod q_j^{f_j}$$

# Collecting relations in TNFS

Relation collection looks for a set of linear polynomials  $\phi(t, X) = a(t) - b(t)X \in R[X]$

1. with bounded coefficients  $\longrightarrow c \in \mathcal{S}$  where  $\mathcal{S}$  is known as the **sieving region**.

2. such that  $N_i(a(t) - b(t)\alpha_i)$  is B-smooth  $\longrightarrow$  Norms divisible only by primes smaller than B:  
 $c \in$  intersection of suitably constructed lattices  $\mathcal{L}$

Concretely, let:

$$a(t) = a_0 + a_1t + a_2t^2$$
$$b(t) = b_0 + b_1t + b_2t^2$$

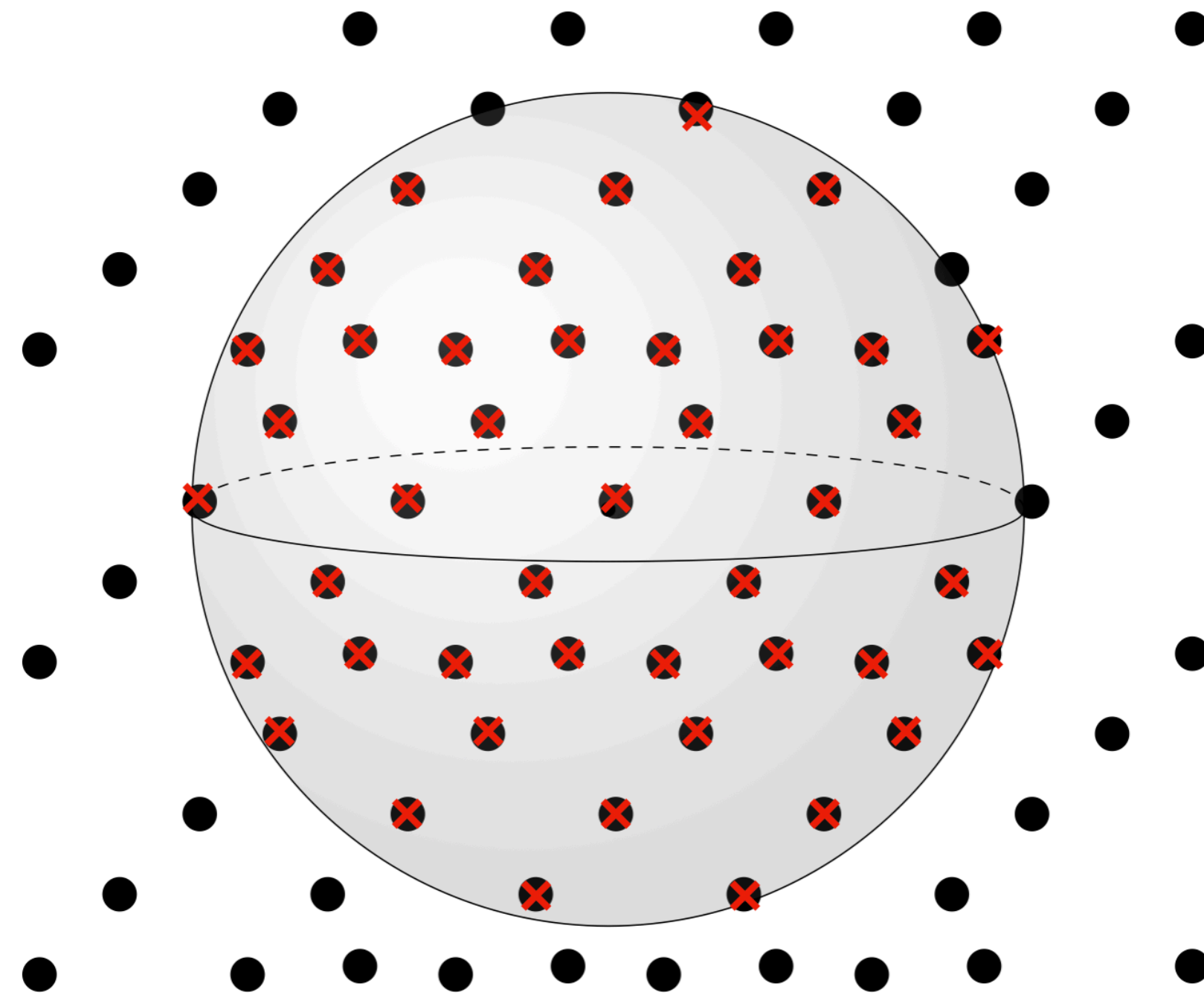
**Goal:** find vectors  $c = (a_0, a_1, a_2, b_0, b_1, b_2) \in \mathbb{Z}^6$  such that

# A new sieving region

Goal: find  $c \in \mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{L}$

What is the dimension of  $\mathcal{S}$ ?  $d = 2\eta = 6$

We look at TNFS so dimension  $> 2$  (since  $\eta \geq 2$ ) and  $\mathcal{S} =$  **6-sphere** ( $\ell_2$ -norm).





# Enumerating in $\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{L}$

- Concretely what is  $\mathcal{L}$ ?

A lattice that describes the **divisibility of the ideals** by an ideal  $\mathfrak{Q}$ , known as a special- $q$  ideal and a prime ideal  $\mathfrak{p}$  in the intermediate number fields.

↳ for many  $\mathfrak{p}'$ s

- The outputs of the enumeration are thus ...

...vectors corresponding to  $(a, b)$  pairs whose norms are divisible by  $N(\mathfrak{Q})$  and  $N(\mathfrak{p})$ .

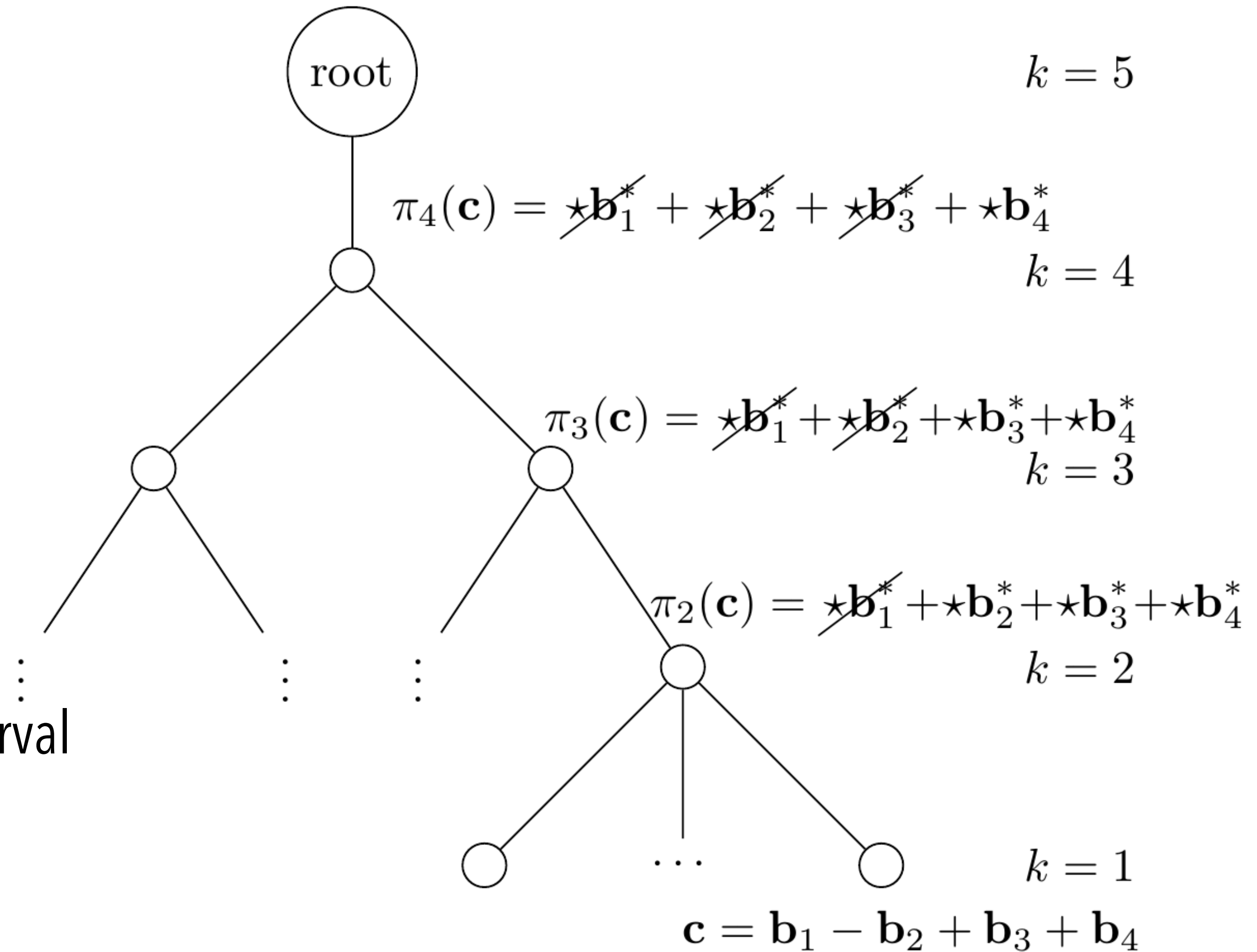
Why? high probability of B-smoothness

# Schnorr-Euchner's enumeration [SE94]

- Input: a lattice basis  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_d$
- Output: shortest non-zero lattice vector

Idea:

1. Construct an enumeration tree
2. Consider projections of the lattice
3. At each level of the tree, enumerate in an interval
4. Depth-first search in the tree

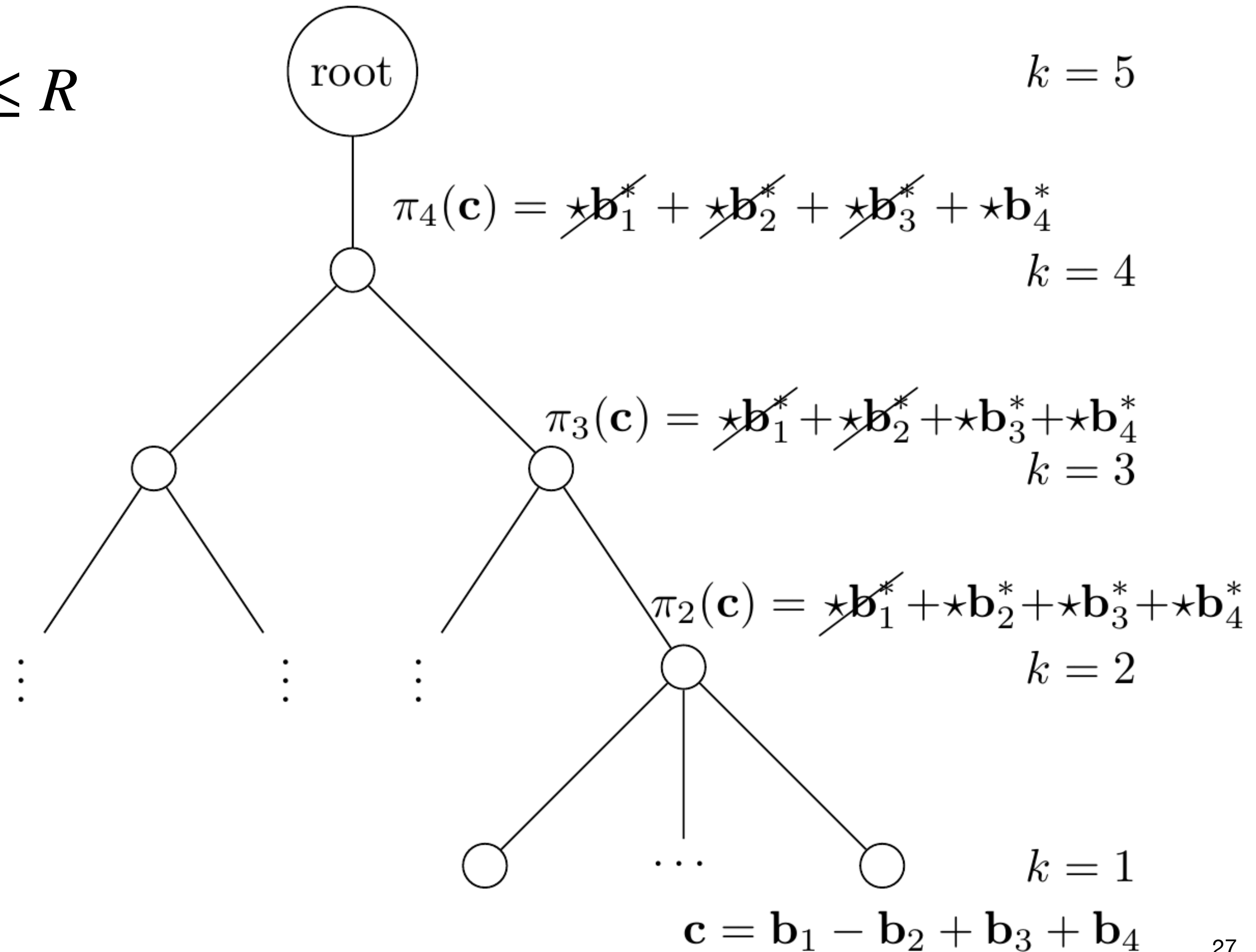


# Schnorr-Euchner's enumeration [SE94]

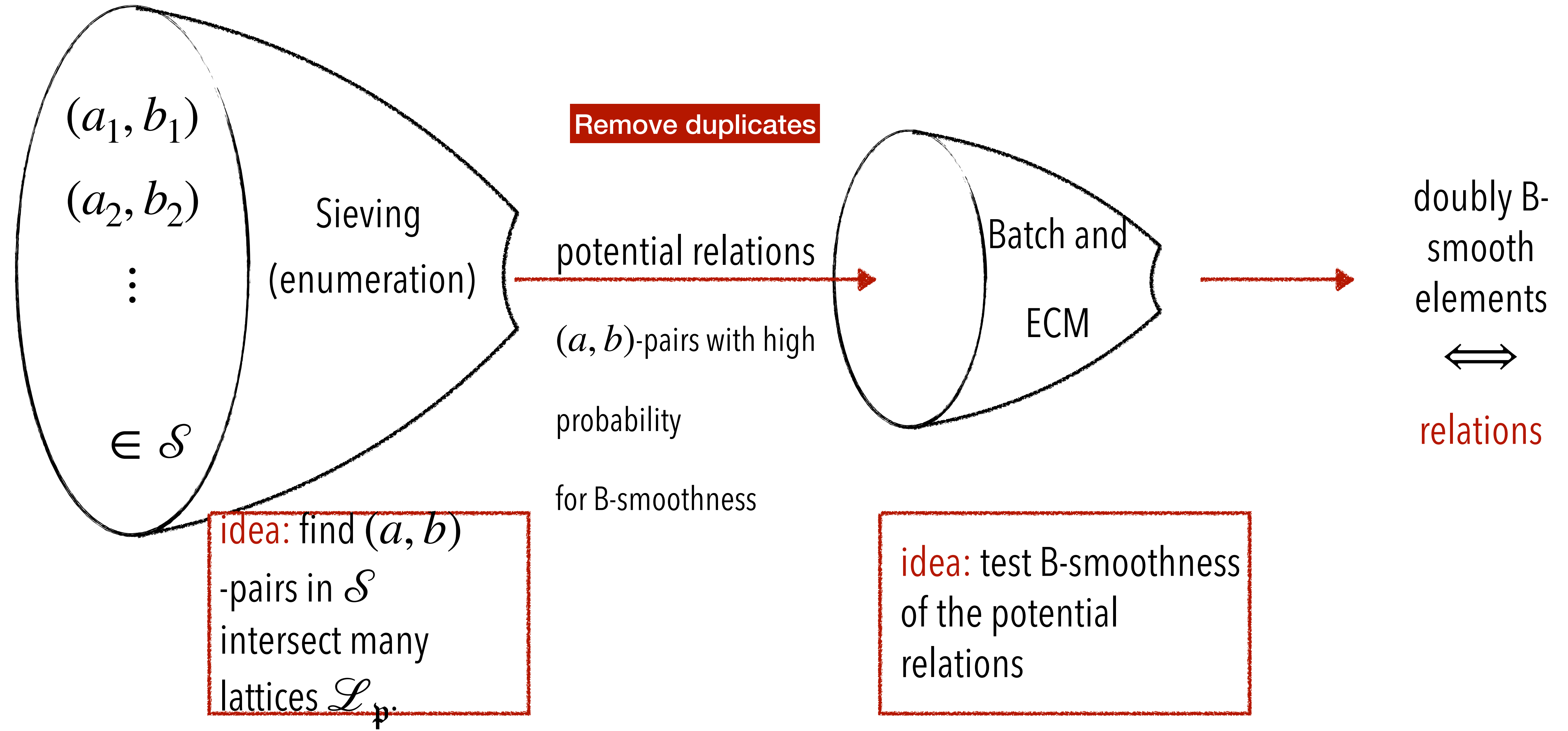
- Input: a lattice basis  $\mathbf{b}_1, \dots, \mathbf{b}_6$
- Output: vectors  $\mathbf{c} = \sum v_i \mathbf{b}_i$  such that  $\|\mathbf{c}\| \leq R$

Idea:

1. Construct an enumeration tree
2. Consider projections of the lattice
3. Exhaustive search of the coefficients  $v_i$



# Relation collection all together

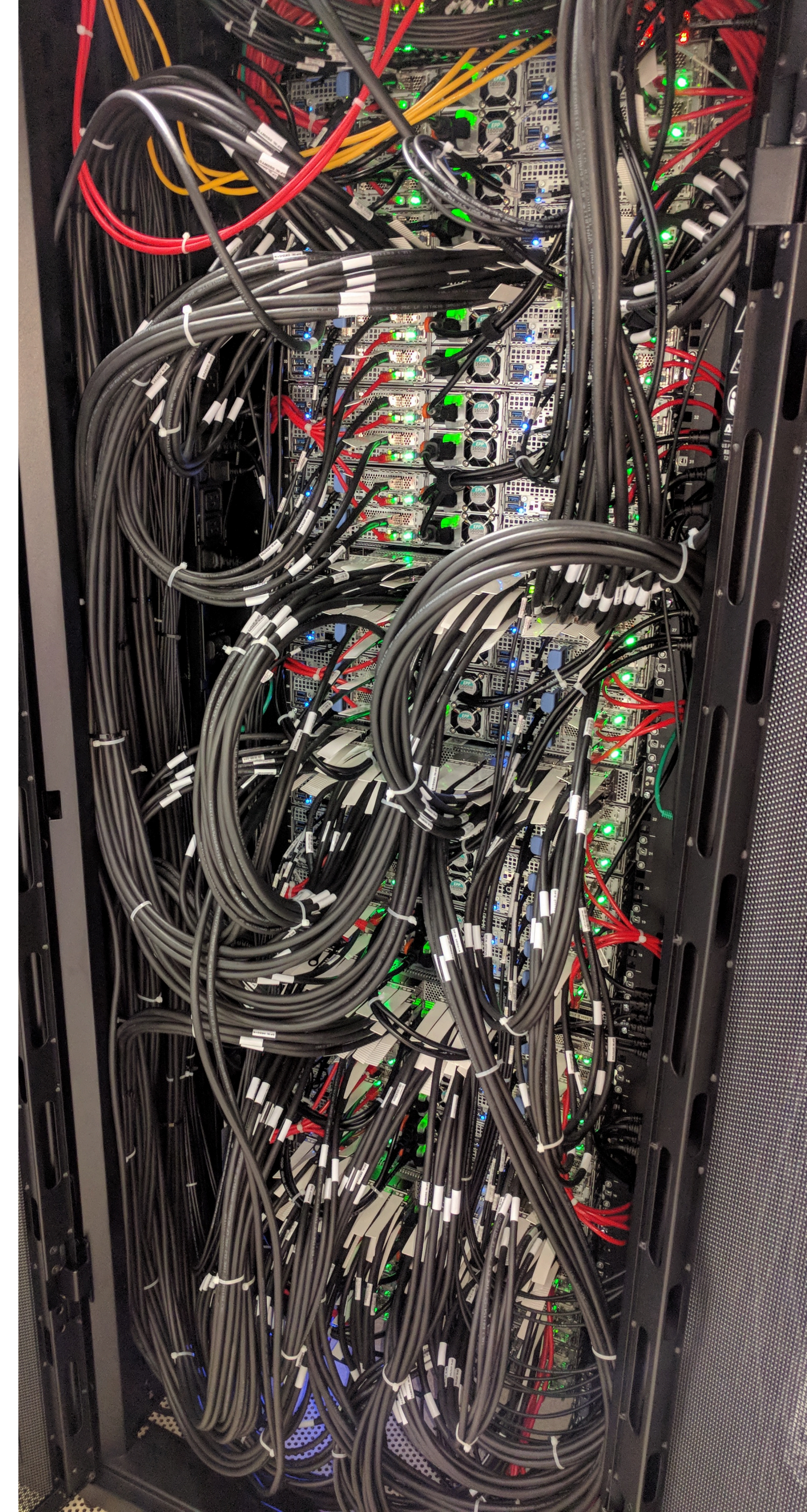


# What we needed for a record computation

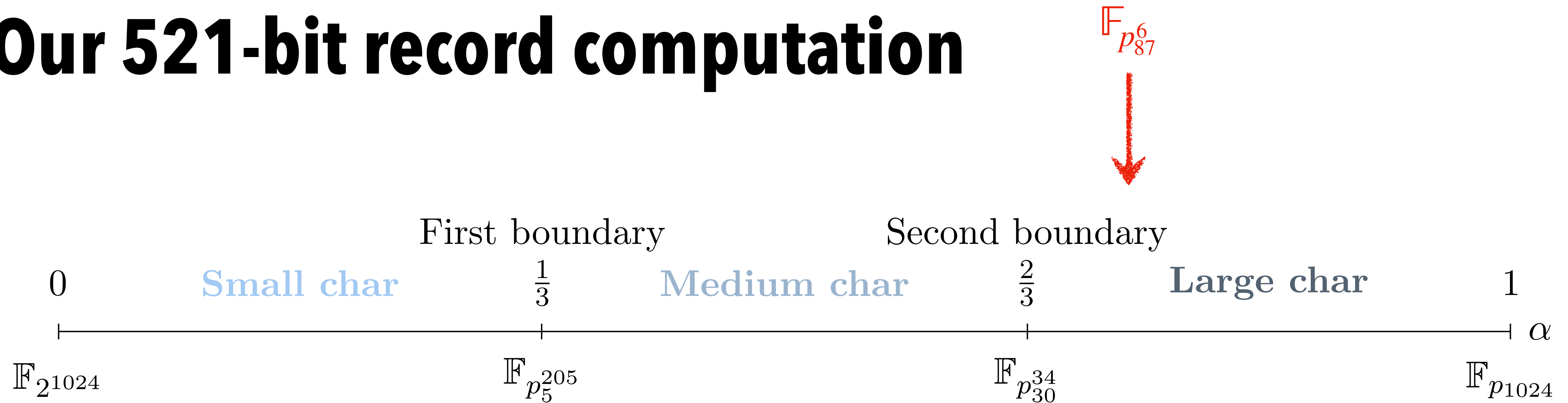
- A fast sieving algorithm in dimension  $> 2$ .
- Identifying and removing duplicate relations.
- Adapting Schirokauer maps (virtual logarithms) to TNFS context.
- Glue-code to branch into CADO-NFS.
- A nice target:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^6}$ .

↑  
in theory...

in practice... → grvingt



# Our 521-bit record computation



Total computation time (core hours):

| Relation Collection | Linear algebra | Schirokauer maps | Descent | Overall time |
|---------------------|----------------|------------------|---------|--------------|
| 23,300              | 1,403          | 40               | 55      | 24,798       |

Focus on relation collection:

| Parameters        | [GGMT17] | [MR21] | This work     |
|-------------------|----------|--------|---------------|
| Algorithm         | NFS      | NFS    | TNFS          |
| Field size (bits) | 422      | 423    | 521           |
| Sieving dimension | 3        | 3      | 6             |
| Sieving time      | 201,600  | 69,120 | <b>23,300</b> |

[GGMT17]: L. Grémy, A. Guillevic, F. Morain, E. Thomé, Computing discrete logarithm in  $\mathbb{F}_p$ . Sac'17

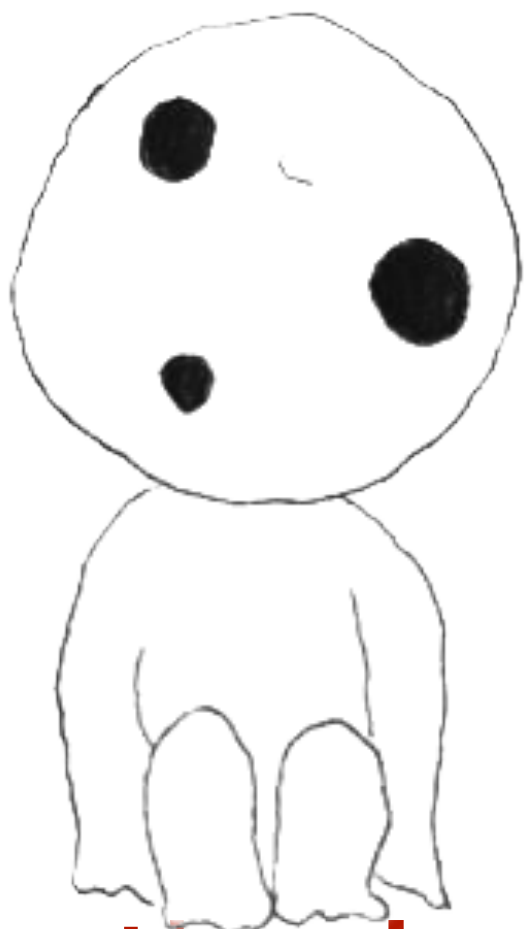
[MR21]: G. McGuire, O. Robinson, Lattice Sieving in three dimensions for discrete log in medium characteristic. Journal of mathematical cryptography'21

# A discrete logarithm

Finite field:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^6}$  with 87-bit prime  $p$ , generator  $g = x + i$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{target} = & (31415926535897932384626433 + 83279502884197169399375105i \\ & + 82097494459230781640628620i^2) + x(89986280348253421170679821 \\ & + 48086513282306647093844609i + 55058223172535940812848111i^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\log(\text{target}) = 7627280816875322297766747970138378530353852976315498$$



Thank you for your attention!

# A discrete logarithm (in more details)

$$p = 0x6fb96ccdf61c1ea3582e57 \text{ (87-bit prime)} \quad n = 6$$

$$\mathbb{F}_{p^6} = \mathbb{F}_{p^3}[x]/(x^2 + 64417723306991464419622353x + 1)$$

Irreducible  
factor mod  $p$ ,  
here  $f_2$

$$\text{target} = a(\iota) + xb(\iota) \in \mathbb{F}_{p^6} \quad \text{with: } a(\iota), b(\iota) \text{ of degree 2 and coefficients } < p.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{target} = & (31415926535897932384626433 + 83279502884197169399375105\iota \\ & + 82097494459230781640628620\iota^2) + x(89986280348253421170679821 \\ & + 48086513282306647093844609\iota + 55058223172535940812848111\iota^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{generator} = x + \iota$$

$$\log(\text{target}) = 7627280816875322297766747970138378530353852976315498$$

$$\text{Verification: } (x + \iota)^{\log(\text{target})} = \text{target} \pmod{\ell\text{-th powers}}$$



# Choice of subgroup

Initial target:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^6}$  Pohlig-Hellman:  $\rightarrow$  Prime order subgroup of order  $\ell \mid p^6 - 1$

We have the following factorisation:  $p^6 - 1 = (p - 1)(p + 1)(p^2 + p + 1)(p^2 - p + 1)$

- $p - 1 = |\mathbb{F}_p^\times|$  If  $g$  and  $h$  are of order  $\ell \mid p - 1 \Rightarrow g, h \in \mathbb{F}_p^\times \Rightarrow$  NFS in  $\mathbb{F}_p$  of **87** bits
- $p + 1 = |\mathbb{F}_{p^2}^\times| / |\mathbb{F}_p^\times|$  If  $g$  and  $h$  are of order  $\ell \mid p + 1 \Rightarrow g, h \in \mathbb{F}_{p^2}^\times \Rightarrow$  NFS in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^2}$  of **175** bits
- $p^2 + p + 1 = |\mathbb{F}_{p^3}^\times| / |\mathbb{F}_p^\times|$  If  $g$  and  $h$  are of order  $\ell \mid p^2 + p + 1 \Rightarrow g, h \in \mathbb{F}_{p^3}^\times \Rightarrow$  NFS in  $\mathbb{F}_{p^3}$  of **261** bits
- $p^2 - p + 1$  : 6th-cyclotomic subgroup Here, we can't go in a smaller subgroup...

**Attention:** it is **not** the largest subgroup!

# Multiplicative group of a finite field

- The non-zero elements of a finite field form a **multiplicative group**.
- This group is **cyclic**, so all non-zero elements can be expressed as powers of a single element called a **primitive element** of the field.

**Example 1:** prime order finite fields:  $\mathbb{F}_p \cong \mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z}$

multiplicative group:  $\mathbb{F}_p^\times = \{1, 2, \dots, p-1\} = \mathbb{F}_p \setminus \{0\}$

**Example 2:** non-prime order finite fields:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n} \cong \mathbb{F}_p[X]/(P)$

--> elements are polynomials over  $\mathbb{F}_p$  whose degree is less than  $n$ .

multiplicative group:  $\mathbb{F}_{p^n}^\times = \{\text{invertible polynomials}\} = \mathbb{F}_{p^n} \setminus \{0\}$

# Number field vs Function fields

## Number field:

Finite extension of  $\mathbb{Q}$

$$\mathbb{Q} = \{p/q : p, q \text{ integers}\}$$

$$K = \mathbb{Q}[x]/(f)$$

Example:  $f = x^2 - d$

$$K = \{x + y\sqrt{d} : x, y \in \mathbb{Q}\}$$

Factor basis: prime ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_K$

B-smoothness: compute norm of ideal = integer  
(from a resultant)

## Function field:

Finite extension of  $\mathbb{F}_p(\iota)$

$$\mathbb{F}_p(\iota) = \{p(\iota)/q(\iota) : p(\iota), q(\iota) \in \mathbb{F}_p[\iota]\}$$

$$K = \mathbb{F}_p(\iota)[x]/(f)$$

Example:  $f = x^2 - (\iota^3 + 2\iota - 3)$

$$K = \{x_0 + x_1\sqrt{\iota^3 + 2\iota - 3} : x_0, x_1 \in \mathbb{F}_p(\iota)\}$$

Factor basis: prime ideals in  $\mathcal{O}_K$

B-smoothness: compute norm of ideal =  
univariate polynomial (from a bivariate  
resultant)

# Why do we choose a $d$ -sphere?

**Assumption:** size of norms depends only on size of vector coordinates.

The norm for  $c' \in C \setminus S_d(R)$  is greater than the norm for  $c \in S_d(R)$ .

When  $d \rightarrow \infty$ :

Difference in norms increases!

**Conclusion:** choosing  $S_d(R)$  leads to **smaller norms**.

