

**NAME**

EC\_POINT\_new, EC\_POINT\_free, EC\_POINT\_clear\_free, EC\_POINT\_copy, EC\_POINT\_dup, EC\_POINT\_method\_of, EC\_POINT\_set\_to\_infinity, EC\_POINT\_set\_Jprojective\_coordinates, EC\_POINT\_get\_Jprojective\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_get\_affine\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GF2m, EC\_POINT\_get\_affine\_coordinates\_GF2m, EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GF2m, EC\_POINT\_point2oct, EC\_POINT\_oct2point, EC\_POINT\_point2bn, EC\_POINT\_bn2point, EC\_POINT\_point2hex, EC\_POINT\_hex2point - Functions for creating, destroying and manipulating EC\_POINT objects.

**SYNOPSIS**

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#include <openssl/ec.h>
#include <openssl/bn.h>

EC_POINT *EC_POINT_new(const EC_GROUP *group);
void EC_POINT_free(EC_POINT *point);
void EC_POINT_clear_free(EC_POINT *point);
int EC_POINT_copy(EC_POINT *dst, const EC_POINT *src);
EC_POINT *EC_POINT_dup(const EC_POINT *src, const EC_GROUP *group);
const EC_METHOD *EC_POINT_method_of(const EC_POINT *point);
int EC_POINT_set_to_infinity(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *point);
int EC_POINT_set_Jprojective_coordinates_GFp(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const BIGNUM *x, const BIGNUM *y, const BIGNUM *z, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_get_Jprojective_coordinates_GFp(const EC_GROUP *group,
const EC_POINT *p, BIGNUM *x, BIGNUM *y, BIGNUM *z, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_set_affine_coordinates_GFp(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const BIGNUM *x, const BIGNUM *y, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_get_affine_coordinates_GFp(const EC_GROUP *group,
const EC_POINT *p, BIGNUM *x, BIGNUM *y, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_set_compressed_coordinates_GFp(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const BIGNUM *x, int y_bit, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_set_affine_coordinates_GF2m(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const BIGNUM *x, const BIGNUM *y, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_get_affine_coordinates_GF2m(const EC_GROUP *group,
const EC_POINT *p, BIGNUM *x, BIGNUM *y, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_set_compressed_coordinates_GF2m(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const BIGNUM *x, int y_bit, BN_CTX *ctx);
size_t EC_POINT_point2oct(const EC_GROUP *group, const EC_POINT *p,
point_conversion_form_t form,
unsigned char *buf, size_t len, BN_CTX *ctx);
int EC_POINT_oct2point(const EC_GROUP *group, EC_POINT *p,
const unsigned char *buf, size_t len, BN_CTX *ctx);
BIGNUM *EC_POINT_point2bn(const EC_GROUP *, const EC_POINT *,
point_conversion_form_t form, BIGNUM *, BN_CTX *);
EC_POINT *EC_POINT_bn2point(const EC_GROUP *, const BIGNUM *,
EC_POINT *, BN_CTX *);
char *EC_POINT_point2hex(const EC_GROUP *, const EC_POINT *,
point_conversion_form_t form, BN_CTX *);
EC_POINT *EC_POINT_hex2point(const EC_GROUP *, const char *,
EC_POINT *, BN_CTX *);
```

**DESCRIPTION**

An EC\_POINT represents a point on a curve. A new point is constructed by calling the function EC\_POINT\_new and providing the **group** object that the point relates to.

EC\_POINT\_free frees the memory associated with the EC\_POINT.

EC\_POINT\_clear\_free destroys any sensitive data held within the EC\_POINT and then frees its memory.

EC\_POINT\_copy copies the point **src** into **dst**. Both **src** and **dst** must use the same EC\_METHOD.

EC\_POINT\_dup creates a new EC\_POINT object and copies the content from **src** to the newly created EC\_POINT object.

EC\_POINT\_method\_of obtains the EC\_METHOD associated with **point**.

A valid point on a curve is the special point at infinity. A point is set to be at infinity by calling EC\_POINT\_set\_to\_infinity.

The affine co-ordinates for a point describe a point in terms of its x and y position. The functions EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GFp and EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GF2m set the **x** and **y** co-ordinates for the point **p** defined over the curve given in **group**.

As well as the affine co-ordinates, a point can alternatively be described in terms of its Jacobian projective co-ordinates (for Fp curves only). Jacobian projective co-ordinates are expressed as three values x, y and z. Working in this co-ordinate system provides more efficient point multiplication operations. A mapping exists between Jacobian projective co-ordinates and affine co-ordinates. A Jacobian projective co-ordinate (x, y, z) can be written as an affine co-ordinate as (x/(z<sup>2</sup>), y/(z<sup>3</sup>)). Conversion to Jacobian projective to affine co-ordinates is simple. The co-ordinate (x, y) is mapped to (x, y, 1). To set or get the projective co-ordinates use EC\_POINT\_set\_Jprojective\_coordinates\_GFp and EC\_POINT\_get\_Jprojective\_coordinates\_GFp respectively.

Points can also be described in terms of their compressed co-ordinates. For a point (x, y), for any given value for x such that the point is on the curve there will only ever be two possible values for y. Therefore a point can be set using the EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GFp and EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GF2m functions where **x** is the x co-ordinate and **y\_bit** is a value 0 or 1 to identify which of the two possible values for y should be used.

In addition EC\_POINTS can be converted to and from various external representations. Supported representations are octet strings, BIGNUMs and hexadecimal. Octet strings are stored in a buffer along with an associated buffer length. A point held in a BIGNUM is calculated by converting the point to an octet string and then converting that octet string into a BIGNUM integer. Points in hexadecimal format are stored in a NULL terminated character string where each character is one of the printable values 0-9 or A-F (or a-f).

The functions EC\_POINT\_point2oct, EC\_POINT\_oct2point, EC\_POINT\_point2bn, EC\_POINT\_bn2point, EC\_POINT\_point2hex and EC\_POINT\_hex2point convert from and to EC\_POINTS for the formats: octet string, BIGNUM and hexadecimal respectively.

The function EC\_POINT\_point2oct must be supplied with a buffer long enough to store the octet string. The return value provides the number of octets stored. Calling the function with a NULL buffer will not perform the conversion but will still return the required buffer length.

The function EC\_POINT\_point2hex will allocate sufficient memory to store the hexadecimal string. It is the caller's responsibility to free this memory with a subsequent call to *OPENSSL\_free()*.

## RETURN VALUES

EC\_POINT\_new and EC\_POINT\_dup return the newly allocated EC\_POINT or NULL on error.

The following functions return 1 on success or 0 on error: EC\_POINT\_copy, EC\_POINT\_set\_to\_infinity, EC\_POINT\_set\_Jprojective\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_get\_Jprojective\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GFp, EC\_POINT\_set\_affine\_coordinates\_GF2m, EC\_POINT\_get\_affine\_coordinates\_GF2m, EC\_POINT\_set\_compressed\_coordinates\_GF2m and EC\_POINT\_oct2point.

EC\_POINT\_method\_of returns the EC\_METHOD associated with the supplied EC\_POINT.

EC\_POINT\_point2oct returns the length of the required buffer, or 0 on error.

EC\_POINT\_point2bn returns the pointer to the BIGNUM supplied, or NULL on error.

EC\_POINT\_bn2point returns the pointer to the EC\_POINT supplied, or NULL on error.

EC\_POINT\_point2hex returns a pointer to the hex string, or NULL on error.

EC\_POINT\_hex2point returns the pointer to the EC\_POINT supplied, or NULL on error.

**SEE ALSO**

*crypto(3)*, *ec(3)*, *EC\_GROUP\_new(3)*, *EC\_GROUP\_copy(3)*, *EC\_POINT\_add(3)*,  
*EC\_KEY\_new(3)*, *EC\_GFp\_simple\_method(3)*, *d2i\_ECParameters(3)*