

## 2 18/09/2023. Homework for Lecture 2.

**Exercise 1.** Let  $p$  be a prime number. A polynomial  $f(x) = k + c_1x + c_2x^2$  is evaluated at pairwise distinct points  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  modulo  $p$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}s_1 &= f(a_1) \pmod{p}, \\s_2 &= f(a_2) \pmod{p}, \\s_3 &= f(a_3) \pmod{p}.\end{aligned}$$

Find a formula that returns the value of  $k$  given  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  and  $s_1, s_2, s_3$  (you may use in this formula the usual arithmetic operations of addition, subtractions, multiplication, and inversion modulo  $p$ ).

**Exercise 2.** Find a quadratic polynomial  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2$  with integer coefficients (not all coefficients are equal to 0 modulo 35) that has at least three different roots modulo 35, i.e.,

$$f(x_1) = 0 \pmod{35}, f(x_2) = 0 \pmod{35}, f(x_3) = 0 \pmod{35}.$$

**Exercise 3.** Let  $f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + \dots + c_dx^d$  be a polynomial with integer coefficients such that for some  $a \in \{0, 1, \dots, n-1\}$

$$f(a) = 0 \pmod{n}.$$

Prove that there exists a polynomial with integer coefficients  $g(x)$  such that

$$f(x) = (x - a) \cdot g(x) \pmod{n}.$$