# BILL START RECORDING LECTURE

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Threshold Secret Sharing: Information-Theoretic

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What do we mean by Cannot learn the secret?

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Info-theory-security. If t - 1 people have big fancy supercomputers they cannot learn ANYTHING about *s*.

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Time permitting We we look at comp-security.

## **Applications**

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**Fact** For people signing a contract long distance, secret sharing is used as a building block in the protocol.



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# (4, 4)-Secret Sharing

Zelda has a secret *s*.  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ ,  $A_4$  are people. We want: 1. If all four of  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ ,  $A_4$  get together, they can find *s*.

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1. If all four of A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>3</sub>, A<sub>4</sub> get together, they can find s.
2. If any three of them get together, then they learn NOTHING.

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1. Zelda breaks s up into  $s = s_1 s_2 s_3 s_4$  where

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   A<sub>1</sub> learns s<sub>1</sub> which is <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the secret!
   A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub> learn s<sub>1</sub>s<sub>2</sub> which is <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of the secret!

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   2.1 A<sub>1</sub> learns s<sub>1</sub> which is <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the secret!
   2.2 A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub> learn s<sub>1</sub>s<sub>2</sub> which is <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> of the secret!
   2.3 A<sub>1</sub>, A<sub>2</sub>, A<sub>3</sub> learn s<sub>1</sub>s<sub>2</sub>s<sub>3</sub> which is <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of the secret!

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#### YES

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2. Zelda gives  $A_1 s_1 = r_1$ . Zelda gives  $A_2 s_2 = r_2$ . Zelda gives  $A_3 s_3 = r_3$ .
#### Random String Approach

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- $A_1, A_2, A_3, A_4$  Can Recover the Secret

 $s_1 \oplus s_2 \oplus s_3 \oplus s_4 = r_1 \oplus r_2 \oplus r_3 \oplus r_1 \oplus r_2 \oplus r_3 \oplus s = s$ 

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Easy to see that if  $\leq 3$  get together they learn NOTHING

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For each t-set of  $A_1, \ldots, A_m$  we set up random strings so they can recover the secret if they all get together. We omit details but may be on HW.

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Every *t*-subset does its own secret sharing, so LOTS of strings.

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Thats A LOT of Strings!

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- 3.  $O(m^a)$  strings for some a > 1 but not linear.
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## Secret Sharing With Polynomials: (3,6)

**Def**  $a \sim b$  means a and b are close together, We do (3,6)-Secret Sharing but technique works for any (t, m).

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Zelda wants to give strings to  $A_1, \ldots, A_m$  such that Any *t* of  $A_1, \ldots, A_m$  can find *s*. Any t - 1 learn **NOTHING**.

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(3, 6) secret sharing.  $s = (10100)_2 = 20$ . We'll use p = 37. (We will see why later.)

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If  $A_1, A_3, A_4$  get together and want to find f(x) hence s.  $f(x) = a_2x^2 + a_1x + s.$   $f(1) = 4: a_2 \times 1^2 + a_1 \times 1 + s \equiv 4 \pmod{37}$   $f(3) = 20: a_2 \times 3^2 + a_1 \times 3 + s \equiv 20 \pmod{37}$  $f(4) = 15: a_2 \times 4^2 + a_1 \times 4 + s \equiv 14 \pmod{37}$ 

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What if  $A_1$  and  $A_3$  get together: f(1) = 4:  $a_2 \times 1^2 + a_1 \times 1 + s \equiv 4 \pmod{37}$  f(3) = 20:  $a_2 \times 3^2 + a_1 \times 3 + s \equiv 20 \pmod{37}$ Can they solve these to find s Discuss.

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No. However, can they use these equations to eliminate some values of *s*? **Discuss**.

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No. However, can they use these equations to eliminate some values of *s*? **Discuss**.

No. ANY s is consistent. If you pick a value of s, you then have two equations in two variables that can be solved.

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No. ANY s is consistent. If you pick a value of s, you then have two equations in two variables that can be solved.

**Important** Information-Theoretic Secure: if  $A_1$  and  $A_3$  meet they learn NOTHING. If they had big fancy supercomputers they would still learn NOTHING.

The three equations below, over mod 37, can be solved:  $a_2 \times 1^2 + a_1 \times 1 + s \equiv 4 \pmod{37}$   $a_2 \times 3^2 + a_1 \times 3 + s \equiv 20 \pmod{37}$  $a_2 \times 4^2 + a_1 \times 4 + s \equiv 15 \pmod{37}$ 

Could we have solved this had we used mod 32? **VOTE** 

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Could we have solved this had we used mod 32? **VOTE** 

- 1. YES
- 2. NO

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- 1. YES
- 2. NO

#### These equations, Don't know, but in general, NO

Need a domain where every number has a mult inverse. Over mod p, p primes, all numbers have mult inverses. Over mod 32, even numbers do not have mult inverse.

The secret was s = 10100. We will work over mod p.

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1. *p* has to be a prime since when 3 people get together they need to solve 3 equations in 3 variables.

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Our Case  $s = (10100)_2 = 20$ . Use smallest prime p such that  $(11111)_2 = 32 \le p - 1$ . That is p = 37.

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# **Threshold Secret Sharing With Polynomials: Ref**

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Due to Adi Shamir How to Share a Secret Communication of the ACM Volume 22, Number 11 1979

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- 1. 3 points in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$  determine a plane.
- 2. 2 points in  $\mathbb{Z}_p^3$  give **no information** about *d*.

This approach is due to George Blakely, **Safeguarding Cryptographic Keys**, **International Workshop on Managing Requirements**, Vol 48, 1979.

We will not do secret sharing this way, though one could.

We won't go into details but there are two ways to use the **Chinese Remainder Thm** to do Secret Sharing.

Due to:

C.A. Asmuth and J. Bloom. A modular approach to key safeguarding. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory Vol 29, Number 2, 208-210, 1983.

And Independently

M. Mignotte How to share a secret, Cryptography: Proceedings of the Workshop on Cryptography, Burg Deursetein, Volume 149 of Lecture Notes in Computer Science, 1982.

### Features and Caveats of Poly Method

Imagine that you've done (t, m) secret sharing with polynomial, p(x). So for  $1 \le i \le m$ ,  $A_i$  has f(i).

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- 1. Feature If more people come FINE- can extend to (t, m + a) by giving  $A_{m+1}$ , f(m+1), ...,  $A_{m+a}$ , f(m+a).
- 2. Caveat If  $m \ge p$  then you run out of points to give people. There are ways to deal with this, but we will not bother. We will always assume m < p.

# BILL STOP RECORDING LECTURE

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