

CS 594 – ADVANCED CRYPTO (SPRING 2026)

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Lecture 7

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SECRET SHARING

LAST TIME: t -OUT-OF- n SECRET SHARING

- We built a (t, n) secret-sharing scheme from a simple (n, n) additive secret-sharing scheme.

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$$\Sigma = (\text{Share, Reconstruct})$$
$$\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{S} = \{0, 1\}^\ell$$

$$S_{T,i_1}, \dots, S_{T,i_t}$$

Share(m) :

$\forall T \subset [n]$ s.t. $|T| = t$,
let $T = \{i_1, \dots, i_t\}$
for $j = 1, \dots, t - 1$
 $S_{T,i_j} \xleftarrow{\$} \{0, 1\}^\ell$
 $S_{T,i_t} = m \oplus \bigoplus_{j=1}^{t-1} S_{T,i_j}$
for $j = 1, \dots, t$
 $\mathbb{S}_{i_j} = \mathbb{S}_{i_j} \cup \{S_{T,i_j}\}$
return $(\mathbb{S}_1, \dots, \mathbb{S}_n)$

Reconstruct($\mathbb{S}_{i_1}, \dots, \mathbb{S}_{i_t}$) :

Compute $T \subset [n]$ s.t.
 $T = \{i_1, \dots, i_t\}$
return $\bigoplus_{j=1}^t S_{T,i_j}$
// $S_{T,i_j} \in \mathbb{S}_{i_j}$ for all j

LAST TIME: t -OUT-OF- n SECRET SHARING

Pros

- Simple construction

Cons

Inefficient
(horrible)
space &
time

BETTER (t, n) SECRET SHARING?

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Can we make a *more efficient* (t, n) secret-sharing scheme?

poly-time (n, t)

- Share
- Reconstruct



parties only
have
poly-size
shares

constant-sized?

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- *Polynomial-time* share and reconstruction algorithms;

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- *Polynomial-time* share and reconstruction algorithms;
- *Constant-sized* shares (with respect to some security parameter).

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- Main Idea: for a secret $s \in \mathbb{F}$, sample random degree $t - 1$ polynomial $f \in \mathbb{F}[X]$ such that $f(0) = s$. $f_0 + f_1 X + \dots + f_{t-1} X^{t-1}$

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- Reconstruction is just *Lagrange Interpolation*.

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$$\mathcal{M} = \mathbb{Z}_p; \mathcal{S} = [n] \times \mathbb{Z}_p$$

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Share(m):

$$f(X) = s$$

for $i = 1, \dots, t - 1$:

$$f_i \stackrel{\$}{\leftarrow} \mathbb{Z}_p \quad \checkmark \text{ rand coeff}$$

$$f = f + f_i \cdot X^i$$

return $[(i, f(i)) \text{ for } i \in [n]]$

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Reconstruct(S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_m}):

Parse $S_{i_j} = (i_j, y_{i_j}) \forall j \in [m]$

$f(X) =$

Interpolate(S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_m})

return $f(0)$

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$$\delta_k(X) = \prod_{\substack{j \in [m] \\ j \neq k}} \frac{X - i_j}{(i_k - i_j)}$$

Inverse over \mathbb{Z}_p

$$L(X) = \sum_{k=1}^m y_{i_k} \cdot \delta_k(X)$$

Your Party #

SHAMIR SECRET SHARING: CORRECTNESS

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- Let's prove correctness of Shamir's scheme.

$$\forall m \in \mathbb{F}$$

$$\forall T \subseteq [n], |T| \geq t$$

$$\mathcal{P}_0 \left[\text{Reconstruct} \left(\left\{ \text{Share}(m)_{i \in T} \right\} \right) = m \right]$$

$$\Leftarrow$$

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- Let's prove correctness of Shamir's scheme.
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Lemma 1

Let \mathbb{F} be a (finite) field and let $f \in \mathbb{F}[X]$ be a non-zero polynomial of degree at most t . Then, $f(X)$ has at most t roots (i.e., $|\{\alpha \in \mathbb{F} : f(\alpha) = 0\}| \leq t$).

$$\mathbb{F}_q \cong \mathbb{F}_p[x] / p(x)$$

$q = p^a$

$p(x) \Rightarrow$ irreducible in $\mathbb{F}_p[x]$ and degree = a

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Corollary 1

For any (finite) field \mathbb{F} , any two distinct degree- t polynomials $p, q \in \mathbb{F}[X]$ agree on at most t points.

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Lemma 2

Let $x_1, \dots, x_t, y_1, \dots, y_t \in \mathbb{F}$ such that x_i are all distinct. Then, there is a unique polynomial $p(X)$ of degree at most $t - 1$ such that $p(x_i) = y_i$ for all i .

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Proof:

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- Let $f(X) = \text{Lagrange}((x_i, y_i)) = \sum_{i=1}^t y_i \delta_i(X)$

$\text{deg} \leq t-1$

$$\delta_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^t \frac{(X - x_j)}{(x_i - x_j)} \quad \checkmark \text{ degree} \leq (t-1)$$

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Proof:

- Follows via Lagrange Interpolation!
- Let $f(X) = \text{Lagrange}((x_i, y_i))$.
- Then, $\deg(f) \leq t - 1$ by definition.

Q: does there $\exists g(x)$ s.t.

$$g(x_i) = y_i \quad \forall i = 1, \dots, t \quad ?$$
$$\deg(g) \leq t - 1$$

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Proof:

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- Let $f(X) = \text{Lagrange}((x_i, y_i))$.
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- Uniqueness follows via Lemma 1! □

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- Suffices to consider $\{(1, y_1), \dots, (t - 1, y_{t-1})\}$ and show that (y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}) is uniformly distributed over \mathbb{F}^{t-1} .

$D_2(m)$
 $(x_1, \dots, x_n) \leftarrow \text{Share}(m)$
 \downarrow
 output
 (y_1, \dots, y_{t-1})

random polynomial with $f(0) = m$

$(i, y_i) \equiv (i, U_{\mathbb{F}})$

 $D_1(m)$
 $s_i \leftarrow \mathbb{F} \quad i = 1, \dots, t-1$
 output (s_1, \dots, s_{t-1})

$$y_i = f(i) = m + \sum_{j=1}^{t-1} f_j \cdot i^j \rightarrow y_i \equiv U_{\mathbb{F}}$$

(Note: $f_j \in \mathbb{F}$)

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$O(t)$ field ops

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Reconstruct(S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_m}):
 Parse $S_{i_j} = (i_j, y_{i_j}) \forall j \in [m]$
 $f(X) =$
 $\text{Interpolate}(S_{i_1}, \dots, S_{i_m})$
 return $f(0)$

Space: Every party stores $(i, f(i)) \in [n] \times \mathbb{F}$

\hookrightarrow has size $O(\log(n) + \log|\mathbb{F}|)$
 $b: + s$

Time

$= \Theta_{\mathbb{F}}(1)$

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 - Naïve implementation: $f(i) = \langle (f_0, \dots, f_{t-1}), (1, i, i^2, \dots, i^{t-1}) \rangle$ for every i ; $O(n \cdot t)$ field operations to compute $(f(1), \dots, f(n))$

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- Time of Reconstruct

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 - Lagrange Interpolation

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 - Inverse FFTs: $O(n \log(t))$ field operations

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EFFICIENT SHAMIR VIA FAST FOURIER TRANSFORM

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- However, to get the most out of it, we need *specific structure* to get these efficiency gains.

EFFICIENT SHAMIR VIA FAST FOURIER TRANSFORM

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- Given this setup, we can perform Shamir Secret Sharing in $O(n \log(t))$ time!

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- Additionally, for $m' \in \mathbb{F}$ and $(s'_1, \dots, s'_n) \leftarrow \text{Share}(m')$, $(s_i + s'_i)_{i \in [n]}$ is a valid secret sharing of $m + m'$.

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- Another example from Sage terminal!

**NEXT TIME: BLAKLEY SECRET SHARING,
GENERAL LINEAR SECRET SHARING, AND
VERIFIABLE SECRET SHARING**