

## Problem 1 (30 Points): Secret Sharing

**(n,n) secret splitting.** Given a secret  $s$  and  $n$  players, the dealer generates  $n - 1$  random strings as first  $n - 1$  shares and last share as the bitwise XORing of  $s$  with all the other  $n - 1$  shares. Answer the following questions in detail.

1. **5 Points.** Can  $n$  players generate  $s$ ? Why or Why not?
2. **5 Points.** Can any  $n - 1$  players generate  $s$ ? Why or why not?

**Shamir (k,n)-threshold secret sharing.** As discussed in the class, Shamir (k,n)-threshold secret sharing scheme chooses a large prime  $p$ . Then the message  $M$  is represented as a number (mod  $p$ ):

$$s(x) = M + s_1x + s_2x^2 + \cdots + s_{k-1}x^{k-1} \pmod{p}.$$

1. **10 Points.** You set up a  $(k, n) = (2, 30)$  Shamir threshold scheme, working mod the prime  $p = 101$ . Two of the shares are  $(1, 13)$  and  $(3, 12)$ . Another person received the share  $(2, *)$ . What is  $M$  (3 points)? What is the value of  $*$  (3 points)?
2. **10 Points.** In a  $(3, 5)$  Shamir secret sharing scheme with modulus  $p = 17$ , the following were given to Alice, Bob, Charles:  $(1, 8)$ ,  $(3, 10)$ ,  $(5, 11)$ . Calculate the corresponding Lagrange interpolating polynomial, and identify the secret  $M$ .

## Problem 2 (30 Points): Zero Knowledge Proof (ZKP)

Recall that a ZKP protocol is a protocol that involves a prover and a verifier that enables the prover to prove to a verifier without revealing any information other than the statement itself and to any other parties.

**Rethinking The Ali Baba Cave.** Are the following solutions satisfying the ZKP property?

1. **5 Points.** Assuming Victor is wearing a camera that records the whole transaction between Peggy and Victor. The only thing the camera will record is Victor shouting “A!” (or “B!”) and Peggy appearing at A or (B). Is this a ZKP protocol? Why or why not?
2. **5 Points.** Another way is that: Peggy could prove to Victor that she knows the magic word, without revealing it to him, in a single trial. Specifically, both Victor and Peggy go to the entrance of the cave, then Victor can watch Peggy go in through the path A and come out through the path B. Is this a ZKP protocol? Why or why not?

**The Sudoku Game (20 Points).** Alice wants to prove to Bob that she has solved a Sudoku puzzle that no one else has ever solved, but does not want her solution known to anyone. Can you help her design a solution based on the ZKP (using non-crypto language)? Prove the completeness, soundness, and zero-knowledge. More information about the sudoku game can be seen in <https://sudoku.com/>.

## Problem 3 (40 Points): Private Information Retrieval

In the slides, we talked about using homomorphic encryption to perform private information retrieval (PIR). Specifically, suppose the server holds a dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  of  $n$  integers  $\mathbf{d} = [d_1, d_2, \dots, d_n]$  encrypted under the client's key. For the server to select an element, e.g.,  $d_i$ , obviously, the client sends an encrypted selection binary vector  $\mathbf{s}$  of length  $n$  containing 0s everywhere except for a 1 in the position  $i$  of the element to be selected. The server then computes the dot product of  $\mathbf{d}$  and  $\mathbf{s}$  using the homomorphism, with the encrypted result  $r = \sum_{j=1}^n d_j s_j$ , and sends it to the client, who can decrypt it.

1. **Protocol design (15 Points).** Please design a protocol based on (somewhat/fully) homomorphic encryption to achieve the goal.
2. **Implementation (25 Points).** This simple dot-product protocol for a database of a specific size can be run by the the SHEEP platform: <https://github.com/alan-turing-institute/SHEEP>.

SHEEP supports a number of fully homomorphic encryption libraries (including HELib, SEAL TFHE, and libpallier). Please use the SHEEP platform to realize the PIR, where the server holds  $\mathbf{d} = [2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 1, 3]$  and the client wants to retrieve each element.

**Submission requirement:** (1) screenshots of the major steps of your answer, and (2) source code files – all named with the prefix “hw4-3-”.