

# CS70 Polynomials

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# Polynomials

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- **Property 2:** A polynomial of degree  $d$  is **uniquely** determined by  $d + 1$  distinct points.



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$$p_3(x) = 1 \text{ at } x_3 \text{ and } p_3(x) = 0 \text{ at } x_1, x_2, x_4, \dots, x_{d+1} \text{ and so on...}$$



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- Then  $p_1(x) = \frac{q(x)}{q_1(x_1)}$  is the polynomial we are looking for.
- Similarly for  $p_i(x)$ , we have  $p_i(x) = \frac{q(x)}{q_i(x_i)}$ .

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- However, if we work with numbers modulo  $m$  where  $m$  is a prime number, then we can add, subtract, multiply and divide.
- Then **Property 1** and **Property 2** hold if the coefficients and the variable  $x$  are restricted to take on values modulo  $m$ . When we work with numbers modulo  $m$ , we are working over a **finite field**, denoted by  $GF(m)$  (**Galois Field**).

# Secret Sharing

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- If there are less than  $k$  people, they will learn nothing about  $s$ !

# Problem Time!