

**SPCS CRYPTOGRAPHY  
HOMEWORK 3**

*Please try all the unmarked problems. #, ★ problems are both optional, with ★ problems being harder.*

1. The order of  $a$  in  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +)$  is the smallest positive integer  $n$  such that  $na \equiv 0 \pmod{m}$ . Compute the order of  $a$  in the following cases.
  - (a)  $a = 2, m = 5$ .
  - (b)  $a = 2, m = 6$ .
  - (c)  $a = 3, m = 6$ .
  - (d)  $a = 3, m = 17$ .

In what case(s) above is  $a$  a generator of  $(\mathbb{Z}/m\mathbb{Z}, +)$ ?

2. Compute the order of  $a$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^*$  under multiplication:
  - (a)  $a = 2, p = 5$ .
  - (b)  $a = 2, p = 7$ .
  - (c)  $a = 3, p = 7$ .
  - (d)  $a = 2, p = 11$ .

In what case(s) above is  $a$  a primitive root mod  $p$ ?

3. Compute the following,
  - (a)  $2^{60} \pmod{7}$ .
  - (b)  $3^{60} \pmod{7}$ .
  - (c)  $3^{60} \pmod{8}$ .
  - (d)  $3^{60} \pmod{9}$ .
  - (e)  $2^{96} \pmod{97}$ . (Hint: 97 is a prime.)

4. Let  $p > 2$  be a prime, and  $g$  be a primitive root of  $p$ . Recall that  $a \pmod{p}$  is a quadratic residue if there is some  $x$  such that  $x^2 \equiv a \pmod{p}$ , i.e.  $a$  is a square mod  $p$ .

Prove that  $a = g^k \pmod{p}$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^*$  is a quadratic residue modulo  $p$  if and only if  $k$  is even.

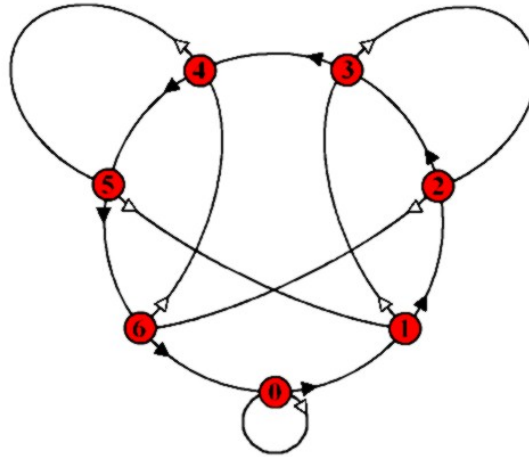
5. Let  $p > 2$  be a prime, and  $a$  in  $\mathbb{F}_p^*$ .
  - (a) Prove that  $a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \pm 1 \pmod{p}$ .
  - (b) If  $g$  is a primitive root mod  $p$ , show that  $g^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv -1 \pmod{p}$ . (Hint: By part (a), it is either 1 or -1. Can it be 1?)

★ (c) Prove Euler's criterion:

$$a^{\frac{p-1}{2}} \equiv \begin{cases} 1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } a \text{ is a quadratic residue modulo } p \\ -1 \pmod{p} & \text{if } a \text{ is not a quadratic residue modulo } p \end{cases}$$

(Hint: Use primitive roots, and Fermat's little theorem)

6. Here is a divisibility test for 7. Write down a number  $n$ . Start at the small white node at the bottom of the graph. For each digit  $d$  in  $n$ , follow  $d$  black arrows in a succession, and as you move from one digit to the next, follow 1 white arrow.



For example, if  $n = 325$ , follow 3 black arrows, then 1 white arrow, then 2 black arrows, then 1 white arrow, and finally 5 black arrows.

The node you end up with correspond to  $n \bmod 7$ . For 325, you should land at 3, meaning that  $325 \equiv 3 \bmod 7$ .

(a) Explain why the test works.

(b) Can you formulate a similar test for 9?

- # 7. The following are encrypted using either Columnar cipher, Vigenere cipher, or substitution cipher. Figure out which is which. Crack them too if you like. You can assume that any Columnar cipher has a key of at most 3 characters.

(a) HUKDOPSLPDHZAHSRPUAOLPKLHVMMHJABHSSFSVZPUNWLLAHO  
 PATLHNHPUHUKPYLHSPGLKOVDTBJOPKVUADHUAOPTAVKPLHUK  
 PAZUVAHIVBAAOLZWVUZVYZHUKPAZUVAHIVBADOHADPSSOHWW  
 LUDOLUDLNLAOVTLHUKPAZUVAQBZAAOHAPKVUADHUA AVILHSV  
 ULPAZOPTPKVUVADHUA AVSVZLAOLIVFDPAAOLILYHLK

(b) OVPUIMFVLOFLQKQZZDZBPVWQGSXOKPHRGGRYOSCDPXSMXIMZ  
 XQGGKAVJPQSFWTXYPZWLTOCYWZZRHECIICOYVVMWJXYPJPYS  
 UCXNDCRFMPCROVPRXMKPJDLUWQZDHPHSVXAQFFZHZKSSKRK  
 OGDLOSRAZUCHEFGCROVPUMZVZFNSWIAQSMXIZZROECDXOVT  
 QKMZZDZPFWERHVKVZWLXIOJFZFPOCMZLVFMNKEZQVMCOEVEH  
 SURJISQSYAVMCOEVEXZZPVBEHHFCBGJK

(c) EOIWAEEURAYLHEAPARKONARTIOEEEHTPNEOOIIREEEESRPR  
 OHNPMEFRVAATPNOAWAIOENOTTEWNOERHEOWNWKGNEETTLNW  
 BNERDOOLIOACLEIARVWHTHRNFNAFQNSOPTEOAPURUSPDSEL  
 NNNNDEHHENUFMSOEAQSFRA BUTLRISTSELYHHEMNAGNCCDL  
 HTRAONRUTPNAOIFEXPHAMEAEGTNUNMEOFCAAPRNREIIHOAI  
 DMESRUTEFAEPNTOLTCTAWGAYCVICWNEOWTTCMSNPTRUTOEIR  
 GOYOSAEERDSEOCYPYSACTTATDAHESLGASHHESWRNICCTALOYS  
 IRUEPCPTNEHLRAMAIDTNEU