

# MA080G Cryptography Assignment Block 2

Viktor Rosvall

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## Fermat's Little Theorem

Fermat's Little Theorem is useful in primality testing and in public-key cryptography. It can also be used to find the inverse of an integer  $a$  modulo a prime. [1]

**Theorem:** let  $a$  be an integer and  $p$  be a prime, then:

$$a^p \equiv a \pmod{p}$$

This can also be rewritten as:

$$a^{p-1} \equiv 1 \pmod{p}$$

If  $p$  is a prime then the inverse of  $a$  can be calculated as:

$$a^{-1} \equiv a^{p-2} \pmod{p}$$

## Proof using modular arithmetic [2]

asd .

### The cancellation law

We can cancel out  $a$  because  $p$  does not divide  $a$ , nor  $k$ .

### The rearrangement property

abada

## References

- [1] C. Paar, J. Pelzl, *Understanding Cryptography*. 2010 ed. Springer., Chapter 6.3.4
- [2] Wikipedia, "Proofs of Fermat's little theorem",  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs\\_of\\_Fermat%27s\\_little\\_theorem](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proofs_of_Fermat%27s_little_theorem)  
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