

## The purpose of these problems is to get some insight into picking the parameters $p$ and $\alpha$ for DHKE

1. Let  $p = 7$

- (a) Let  $\alpha = 2$  and calculate  $\alpha^i \pmod p$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, 6$   
How many unique values do you get?

Remember the *Mathematica* command `Table[ Mod[2^i,7], {i,1,6}]`

(b) Repeat (a) for  $\alpha = 3$

- (c) Based on your answers, using  $p = 7$ , would you choose  $\alpha = 2$  or  $\alpha = 3$  for DHKE? Explain.

2. Let  $p = 31$  and repeat #1 with  $i = 1, \dots, 30$  for  $\alpha = 2$  and  $\alpha = 3$

3. Let  $p = 167$ . Which would you pick:  $\alpha = 166$  or  $\alpha = 2$ ? Why?

3. What are the elements of  $\mathbb{Z}_{12}^*$ ? of  $\mathbb{Z}_{11}^*$ ?
4. What is  $\text{ord}(2)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{31}^*$ ?  $\text{ord}(3)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{31}^*$ ?  $\text{ord}(7)$  in  $\mathbb{Z}_{31}^*$ ?
5. Is 2 a generator in  $\mathbb{Z}_{31}^*$ ? How about 3? How about 7?
6. What connection do you see to DHKE?