

Lemma

If $0 < k < p$, then $\binom{p}{k}$ is a multiple of p .

Proof.

- $\binom{p}{k}$ is an integer, call it m .
- Recall that

$$\binom{p}{k} = \frac{p!}{k!(p-k)!} = m.$$

- This gives

$$p! = m \cdot k! \cdot (p-k)!$$

- The LHS is divisible by p .
- Since $k < p$, $k!$ is not divisible by p ;
- Since $k - p < p$, $(p-k)!$ is not divisible by p ;
- Therefore m is divisible by p .

