

*Some of these exercercises are similar to the ones we did today in class. Others will be discussed in the next lectures.*

1. Show that in a field of characteristic 3 we have  $(x + y)^4 + x^4 + (x - y)^4 + y^4 = 0$ .
2. Show that any quadratic polynomial in  $\mathbf{Z}_p[x]$  can be written as the product of two linear polynomials with coefficients in  $\mathbf{F}_{p^2}$ .
3. Prove that  $f = x^3 + x^2 + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbf{Z}_2[x]$ . Let  $K = \mathbf{Z}_2[x]/(f)$ . Show hat  $K$  is a field of 8 elements. Show that  $x$  generates  $K^*$ .
4. Determine  $\#\{a \in \mathbf{F}_{16} : \mathbf{F}_{16} = \mathbf{F}_2(a)\}$  and  $\#\{a \in \mathbf{F}_{64} : \mathbf{F}_{64} = \mathbf{F}_2(a)\}$ .
5. Let  $\mathbf{F}_q$  be a finite field. Count the number of irreducible polynomials of degree  $d$  in  $\mathbf{F}_q[X]$  for  $d = 1, \dots, 4$ .
6. Let  $p$  and  $r$  be distinct primes. Show that  $p$  is a primitive root modulo  $r \Leftrightarrow$  the polynomial  $(X^r - 1)/(X - 1)$  is irreducible in  $\mathbf{F}_p[X]$ .
7. (a) Factor  $X^7 - 1$  and  $X^{11} - 1$  in  $\mathbf{F}_2[X]$ .  
(b) Factor  $X^{16} - 1$  and  $X^{16} - X$  in  $\mathbf{F}_2[X]$ .

Let  $N$  and  $Tr$  denote the norm and trace maps from  $\mathbf{F}_{p^m}$  to  $\mathbf{F}_p$ .

By definition  $Tr(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \phi^i(x)$  and  $N(x) = \prod_{i=0}^{m-1} \phi^i(x)$ , where  $\phi : \mathbf{F}_{p^m} \rightarrow \mathbf{F}_{p^m}$  denotes the Frobenius automorphism.

8. (a) Show that for every  $a \in \mathbf{F}_{p^m}$  we have  $N(a) = a^{1+p+\dots+p^{m-1}}$  and  $Tr(a) = a + a^p + \dots + a^{p^{m-1}}$ .  
(b) Show that the trace is a surjective homomorphism of additive groups. (Hint: estimate the size of the kernel)  
(c) Show that the Norm map is a surjective homomorphism  $\mathbf{F}_{p^m}^*$  to  $\mathbf{F}_p^*$ . (Hint: estimate the size of the kernel)
9. (a) For which of the following primes  $p$  the ring  $\mathbf{F}_p[x]/(x^2+1)$  is a field?  $p = 3, 5, 7, 11, 13, 19, 23$ .  
(b) Show that  $x^2 + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbf{Z}_p[x]$  if and only if  $p \equiv 3 \pmod{4}$ .
10. (a) Show that the squares form subgroup of  $\mathbf{F}_q^*$  and that its index is 2 if  $q$  is odd and 1 if  $q$  is even.  
(b) Show that if  $q = 2^k$ , then every element of  $\mathbf{F}_q$  has a square root in  $\mathbf{F}_q$ .  
(c) For any  $d > 0$ , show that the set of  $d$ -th powers form subgroup of  $\mathbf{F}_q^*$  and that its index is  $\gcd(d, q - 1)$ .
11. (a) Show that  $x^2 + 2x + 2$  is an irreducible polynomial in  $\mathbf{F}_3[x]$  and that its roots are generators of the multiplicative group of its splitting field.  
(b) Show that  $x^4 + x^3 + x^2 + x + 1$  is irreducible in  $\mathbf{F}_2[x]$  but its roots do not generate the multiplicative group of its splitting field.  
(c) Show that the roots of a degree  $n$  irreducible polynomial with symmetric coefficients ( $a_i = a_{n-i}$ , for  $1 \leq i \leq n/2$ ) do not generate the multiplicative group of its splitting field.
12. Let  $p$  be a prime and let  $a \in \mathbf{F}_p$  be a non-zero element. Show that  $x^p - x + a$  is irreducible in  $\mathbf{F}_p[x]$ . (Hint: if  $\zeta$  is a root, then so is  $\zeta + 1$ ).
13. Show that if  $\mathbf{F}$  is a field whose multiplicative group is cyclic, then  $\mathbf{F}$  must be finite.