

**Coding Theory / Discrete Mathematics II**  
**Assignment 4 (May 18, 2006)**

(This assignment is due on May 26, 2006, 1.00 p.m., by dropping it into the wooden box  
in front of F 310)

**Exercise 1 (Ring of polynomials):**

Let  $K$  be a field and  $K[x]$  the ring of polynomials over  $K$ .

- a) Let  $h \in K[x] \setminus \{0\}$  and  $h(\alpha) = 0$  for some  $\alpha \in K$ . Show that  $h = g \cdot (x - \alpha)$  for  $g \in K[x]$ .
- b) Let  $f \in K[x] \setminus \{0\}$  with degree 2 or 3. Show that  $f$  is irreducible if and only if  $f(\alpha) \neq 0$  for every  $\alpha \in K$ .

(Hint: Use Theorem 3.5 about the division of polynomials to prove part a).)

(15+15 Points)

**Exercise 2 (Irreducible polynomials):**

- a) Determine all irreducible polynomials of degree 2 in  $\mathbb{Z}_3[x]$ .
- b) Write  $x^5 - x^4 - x^3 + x + 1$  as a product of irreducible polynomials over  $\mathbb{Z}_3$ .
- c) Write  $x^4 + 8x^2 + 15$  as a product of irreducible polynomials over  $\mathbb{R}$ .

(15+8+7 Points)