

- 77.** Construct a field of (a) 8; (b) 25; (c) 32 elements.
- 78.** Let F be a finite field. Prove the following statements:
- (a) There exists a unique prime number p such that any $c \in F$ added p times gives 0.
 - (b) F contains a subfield isomorphic to \mathbf{Z}_p .
 - (c) F is a vector space over this subfield under the natural operations.
 - (d) The number of elements in F is a prime power.
- 79.** Let F be a finite field of n elements. Prove:
- (a) $c^{n-1} = 1$ for every non-zero $c \in F$.
 - ^{*}(b) There exists a non-zero $\alpha \in F$ such that $\alpha^k \neq 1$ for every $0 < k < n - 1$.
 - (c) $F = \{0, \alpha, \alpha^2, \dots, \alpha^{n-2}, \alpha^{n-1} = 1\}$ for some $\alpha \in F$, i.e. all non-zero elements are powers of a suitable element α .
 - (d) $\alpha^r = \alpha^t \iff r \equiv t \pmod{n-1}$.
- 80.** Determine the sum and product of the non-zero elements of a finite field.
- 81.** In which finite fields is every element a square?
- 82.** Find all finite fields where we can take the square of a sum by terms, i.e. $(a + b)^2 = a^2 + b^2$ holds for every a, b ? Solve the similar problem when squares are replaced by cubes. (*) Generalize for p th powers where p is a prime (try first, say, $p = 7$).
- 83.** A set of integers $1 \leq a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_k \leq n$ is called a *Sidon set* if the sums $a_i + a_j$ ($i \leq j$) are pairwise distinct. Our aim is to give upper and lower bounds for the maximal size $k = s(n)$.
- (a) Show that the condition is equivalent to the differences $a_i - a_j$ ($i \neq j$) being pairwise distinct.
 - (b) Upper bounds: (b1) $k \leq 2\sqrt{n}$; moreover (b2) $k \leq \sqrt{2n} + 1$.
 - (c) Lower bounds: (c1) $k \geq \log_2 n$; moreover (c2) $k \geq \sqrt[3]{n}$.
 - (d) Improved lower bound for $n = p^2 - 1$ where p is a prime: $k \geq p = \lceil \sqrt{n} \rceil$.
 - (d1) At most how many numbers can be selected satisfying the stronger requirement that the differences $a_i - a_j$ ($i \neq j$) are (not just pairwise distinct but are even) pairwise incongruent mod n ?
 - ^{*}(d2) Prove that there exist p elements satisfying this stronger requirement.