## The field GF(8)

 $p(x) = x^3 + x + 1$  is an irreducible polynomial in  $Z_2[x]$ .

The eight polynomials of degree less than 3 in  $Z_2[x]$  form a field with 8 elements, usually called GF(8).

In GF(8), we multiply two elements by multiplying the polynomials and then reducing the product modulo  $\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{x})$ .

| product<br>mod <i>p</i> ( <i>x</i> ) | 0 | 1           | x           | <i>x</i> +1   | $x^2$         | <i>x</i> <sup>2</sup> +1 | $x^2+x$     | <i>x</i> <sup>2</sup> + <i>x</i> +1 |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------|
| 0                                    | 0 | 0           | 0           | 0             | 0             | 0                        | 0           | 0                                   |
| 1                                    | 0 | 1           | x           | <i>x</i> +1   | $x^2$         | $x^{2}+1$                | $x^2+x$     | $x^{2}+x+1$                         |
| x                                    | 0 | x           | $x^2$       | $x^2+x$       | <i>x</i> +1   | 1                        | $x^{2}+x+1$ | $x^{2}+1$                           |
| <i>x</i> +1                          | 0 | <i>x</i> +1 | $x^2+x$     | $x^{2}+1$     | $x^2 + x + 1$ | $x^2$                    | 1           | x                                   |
| $x^2$                                | 0 | $x^2$       | <i>x</i> +1 | $x^2 + x + 1$ | $x^2+x$       | x                        | $x^{2}+1$   | 1                                   |
| $x^{2}+1$                            | 0 | $x^{2}+1$   | 1           | $x^2$         | x             | $x^2 + x + 1$            | <i>x</i> +1 | $x^2+x$                             |
| $x^2+x$                              | 0 | $x^2+x$     | $x^{2}+x+1$ | 1             | $x^{2}+1$     | <i>x</i> +1              | x           | $x^2$                               |
| $x^{2}+x+1$                          | 0 | $x^{2}+x+1$ | $x^{2}+1$   | x             | 1             | $x^2+x$                  | $x^2$       | <i>x</i> +1                         |