# Personal details

#### Personal details

First / given name Harpreet

Second given name

Third given name

Surname/family name Singh

Date of birth 21 December 2000

Preferred first/given name Harpreet

**Previous surname** 

Country of birth India

Legal nationality Indian

**Dual nationality** 

Country of residence India

Have you previously studied with No

us at the University of Bristol?

# Contact details

## Home address

Please provide your permanent residential address. If you have another address and would prefer for us to contact you at that address instead you have the opportunity to add a correspondence address in the next section.

Country India

Postcode 148026

Address Line 1 Vpo Kakra, Bhawanigarh

Address Line 2 Sangrur, Punjab(148026), India

City Bhawanigarh

County India

**Telephone** 

If you would like us to send any postal correspondence to an address which is not your home address please enter an alternative address here. If you want us to send correspondence to your home address then please select No.

Do you want to add a Yes

correspondence address?

Country India

Postcode 140306

Address Line 1 H4 323, liser, Mohali, Sec. 81

Address Line 2 Sas Nagar, Po Manauli(140306)

City Sas Nagar

County India

Telephone

# Agent

# Agent details

Agency Name

**Email address** 

# Other information

# **Additional Documents**

Please upload required documents as outlined in your admissions statement

# **Mode of study**

**How would like to study this** Full Time **programme?** 

# Qualifications

### Qualifications

Institution	Qualification	Туре	Subject	Actual/predicted	Grade	Start date	End date
Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) Mohali	Other Qual	Academic Qualification	Mathematics	Predicted	8 CPI	01/Jan/2021	16/May/2025

If these qualifications have altered since your last application please note the changes in the free text box here.

# **English Language**

Is English your first language? No
What is your first language? Punjabi
Did you study at Yes
school/university where you were
taught in English?
For how many years? 10
Have you sat a relevant English Yes
language test?

### **TOEFL** (internet-based)

Registration number 53G08C5F
Date of TOEFL test 09 November 2024
TOEFL reading score 24
TOEFL listening score 26
TOEFL speaking score 22
TOEFL writing score 21
TOEFL total score 93

#### **IELTS (International English Language Testing System)**

Test report form (TRF) number
UKVI number (if applicable)
Date of IELTS test
IELTS listening score
IELTS reading score
IELTS writing score
IELTS speaking score
IELTS total score

#### **Pearson Test of English**

Score report code
Date of Pearson test
Pearson listening score
Pearson reading score
Pearson speaking score
Pearson writing score
Pearson overall score

### Other English Language test

Name of course

Registration number
Date of test
Listening score
Writing score
Reading score
Total score

# **Experience**

# **Current Employer**

**Employer name and address** Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) Mohali, Sector 81, Knowledge City, PO Manauli, SAS Nagar, Punjab 140306, India.

Job title and main duties BS-MS Student. The program comprises 10 semesters. Since my 5th semester, I have majored in Mathematics with a minor in Data Science. From my 9th semester onward, I have been pursuing my MS thesis on Lorentzian polynomials and polytope algebra.

Full time/Part time Full time

Date of Appointment 01 January 2021

End date (if applicable) 16 May 2025

# **Previous employment 1**

Employer name and address
Job title and main duties
Full time/Part time
Date of Appointment
End date (if applicable)

# **Previous employment 2**

Employer name and address
Job title and main duties
Full time/Part time
Date of Appointment
End date (if applicable)

# **Previous employment 3**

Employer name and address
Job title and main duties
Full time/Part time
Date of Appointment
End date (if applicable)

# **Other Experience**

Do you have any other relevant No work experience to support your application?

Please provide details

# Personal statement

#### Personal details

Do you have a personal No statement to upload?

Please type your personal During my MS thesis, I was introduced to combinatorics. Since my university offered statement in the box no dedicated courses in the subject, I pursued self-study, which deepened my interest. Combinatorics aligns with my way of thinking, where simple problems often reveal deeper insights and unexpected connections. I am fascinated by fundamental mathematical structures, like groups, topological spaces, matroids, and polynomials, which provide powerful tools for understanding various problems. I am always seeking such structures. I am eager to pursue a PhD at the University of Bristol under the guidance of Dr. Farhad Babaee, focusing on combinatorics and algebraic geometry. Coming from a background where education wasn't strongly emphasized and resources were modest, adjusting to IISER's academic environment was initially challenging. While this affected my grades at first, I gradually found my footing and developed a strong connection with mathematics. I believe my curiosity, determination, and persistence demonstrate my readiness for doctoral study. I would be grateful for the opportunity to contribute to this field under Dr. Babaee's guidance. I am currently writing my thesis, which builds on these ideas, and I may share it to support my application once completed.

# Research proposal

# Research proposal

Proposed supervisor 1 Dr. Farhad Babaee **Proposed supervisor 1** Proposed project title Combinatorial Algebraic Geometry (max 150 chars)

# Passport and visa

# Visa required

Do you require a visa to study in Yes the IIK?

Please fill out your passport details below. If you are unable to provide these at the current time you will have another opportunity to upload your passport after you submit the form. If you do not provide us with this information we will be unable to issue you with your confirmation of acceptance number and you will be unable to obtain a visa.

# **Passport details**

Passport number B7373264

# **Further details**

Have you previously studied in No the UK?

What was the highest level of

study in the UK?

Please confirm the total length of your UK study in years

### Referees

# Referee 1

Do you have a reference to No

upload?

Type of reference Academic

Referee title Dr

Forename Vaibhav

Surname Vaish

**Position** Assistant Professor

Institution/Company Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) Mohali

Email address vaibhav@iisermohali.ac.in

Country India

## Referee 2

Do you have a second reference No

to upload?

Type of reference Academic

Referee title Dr

Forename Tanusree

Surname Khandai

Position Assistant Professor

Institution/Company Indian Institute of Science Education & Research (IISER) Mohali

Email address tanusree@iisermohali.ac.in

Country India

# <u>Funding</u>

# **Funding 1**

What is your likely source of University of Bristol scholarship funding?

Please give the name of your scholarship or Studentship

Please specify

Percentage from this source 100 Is this funding already secured? No

# **Funding 2**

What is your likely source of funding?
Please give the name of your

Please give the name of your scholarship or Studentship

Please specify

Percentage from this source Is this funding already secured?

# **Funding 3**

What is your likely source of funding?
Please give the name of your scholarship or Studentship
Please specify
Percentage from this source
Is this funding already secured?

# Other funding

I would like to be considered for Yes other funding opportunities

### Submission

#### **Documents**

Document type File name

Application form PDF (anonymised) Anon 2802854~01~01.pdf Research proposal Research\_satement.pdf

Passports and visas Passport.pdf

Curriculum vitae Cv.pdf

Language qualification TOEFL\_Score\_Report\_0625673.pdf
Transcript Harpreet\_singh\_Acadmic\_transcript.pdf

By ticking the checkbox below and submitting your completed online application form, you acknowledge the University of Bristol will use the information provided from time to time, along with any further information about you the University may hold, for the purposes set out in the <u>University's full Data Protection Statement</u>. Applicants applying to the collaborative programmes of doctoral training should also read the <u>Data Protection Statement</u> for collaborative programmes of doctoral training.

The information that you provided on your application form will be used for the following purposes:

- To enable your application for entry to be considered and allow our Admissions Advisors, where applicable, to assist you through the application process;
- To enable the University to compile statistics, or to assist other organisations to do so. No statistical information will be published that would identify you personally;
- To enable the University to initiate your student record should you be offered a place at the University.

All applicants should note that the University reserves the right to make without notice changes in regulations, courses, fees etc at any time before or after a candidate's admission. Admission to the University is subject to the requirement that the candidate will comply with the University's registration procedure and will duly observe the Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations from time to time in force.

By ticking the checkbox below and submitting your completed online application form, you are confirming that the information given in this form is true, complete and accurate and that no information requested or other material information has been omitted. You are also confirming that you have read the Data Protection Statement and you confirm the statement below.

I can confirm that the information I have provided is true, complete and accurate. I accept that the information given in my application will be stored and processed by the University of Bristol, in accordance with the *UK General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018*, in order to:

- Consider my application and operate an effective and impartial admissions process;
- · Monitor the University's applicant and student profile;
- · Comply with all laws and regulations;
- · Ensure the wellbeing and security of all students and staff;
- If my application is successful to form the basis of the statement made within my application.

If the University of Bristol discovers that I have made a false statement or omitted signification information from my application, for example examination results, I understand that it may have to withdraw or amend its offer or terminate my registration, according to circumstances.

# Curriculum Vitae

Name

**B.S.- M.S.** (Majoring in Mathematics)

The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali

\*\*\*@gmail.com

Mob.

\*\*\*@iisermohali.ac.in

Course	College/University	Year	CGPA/%
B.SM.S.	Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), Mohali	2020-2025(expected)	7.55
Intermediate (+2)	Govt. Sen. Sec. School, Nadampur (Sangrur)	2019	91.56%
High School	FCS Adarsh Sen. Sec. School, Balad Khurd (Sangrur)	2017	10.0

#### **SKILLS & INTERESTS**

- Programming Languages and other tools: C/C++, Python, Julia, SageMath, LATEX
- Languages: English, Hindi, Punjabi (Mother tongue)
- Mathematical Interests: Combinatorics, Algebraic Geometry, Number Theory.
- Other Interests: Machine Learning, Ecology, Bird Watching, Trekking, Chess, Listening Music, Social Theory

#### **PROJECTS**

• Polytope Algebra | Dr. Vaibhav Vaihs(IISER Mohali)

[Dec 2024-Present]

- o Peter McMullen's Polytope Algebra and Hodge Riemann structure on Combinatorial Geometries
- Lorentzian Polynomials | Dr. Vaibhav Vaish(IISER Mohali)

[Sep 2024-Dec 2024]

- Matroid Theory, Hyperbolic Polynomials and cones, Stable Polynomials and various operations preserving them, logconcavity, Jump Systems, interlacing, Lorenzian polytomials, c-Rayleigh Property.
- Problems in Algebraic Number Theory | Dr. Vaibhav Vaish(IISER Mohali)

[May 2024-Aug 2024]

- The ABC Conjecture, Euclidean Rings, Liouville's Theorem, Algebraic Numbers and Integers, Integral Bases, Dedekind Domains.
- Greatest Integer Function and Trigonometric Functions | Prof. Ajit Iqbal Singh (Delhi University) [June 2023-July 2023]
  - A Cute Observation (Link removed to maintain anonymity): Variants of the Greatest Integer Function as point-wise limits of sequences of infinitely differentiable functions formed using repeated composition of trigonometric functions.
- A Study of Arithmetic Functions | Prof. Sudesh Kaur Khanduja (Panjab University)

[May 2022-July 2022]

- Elementary Number Theory, Quadratic Congruences, Arithmetic Functions, Euler's Theorem, Primitive Roots, Numbers of Special Form, Quadratic Reciprocity, attempting solutions of  $\sigma(s) = 2s + 1$ .
- Basics of Number Theory | Dr. Sugandha Maheshwary(IIŠER Mohali)

[Apr 2021-May 2021]

Got introduced to Number Theory and worked on elementary concepts.

#### RELEVANT COURSES

Symmetry | Curves and Surfaces | Number Theory & Cryptography | Intro to Data Science | Machine Learning | Linear Algebra | Set Theory & Logic | Real Analysis | Groups, Rings and Modules | Complex Analysis | Measure Theory | Topology | ODEs | Functional Analysis | Fields and Galois Theory | Manifolds | Nonlinear Dynamics | Visual Art: Studio Practice and Theory | Network Science | Algebraic Topology | Discrete Mathematics | Fuchsian Groups | Linear Operators on Hilbert Spaces | Commutative Algebra | Algorithms and Complexity theory

#### SOCIETY AND RESPONSIBILITIES

• PoR: Hostel Representative, Mess Committee Member, SRC Member

[Sep 2022 – Sep 2023]

• Organized Blood Donation Camps, Cultural Festivals, and other social gatherings. Active participation in the Mathematics Club, Astronomy Club and Ambient Club at IISER Mohali.,

# Research Statement

# Introduction and motivation

During my MS thesis, my guide, Dr. Vaibhav Vaish, introduced me to combinatorics. While my university did not offer dedicated courses in combinatorics, I undertook self-study in this area to develop my understanding, which significantly influenced my growing interest in the field. As I studied and explored more deeply into the field, I felt a deep connection. It aligns with my natural way of thinking and philosophy of life, where many problems are simple to state yet challenging to address, often revealing unexpected connections between seemingly unrelated areas or concepts in mathematics. This process compels one to rethink and view mathematical objects through a new lens. Thus, I choose this branch to pursue further as my career and as part of my mathematical journey of understanding.

In the following, I express my deep interest and research ideas to explore this fascinating field though a PhD project under the guidance and vision of Dr. Farhad Babaee. My fundamental goal will be to uncover and understand many of the "likely" cornerstones in this field and potentially create many more of them.

# Research Experience

- Lorentzian Polynomials: I started by exploring the fundamental idea of matroid, unifying many of the combinatorial concepts and then learned about the links between certain combinatorial objects and polynomials — specifically, basis generating polynomials of a matroid and generating polynomials for enumeration sequences for certain combinatorial structures. These polynomials often possess an interesting geometrical property: stability. This led me to delve into stable polynomials and hyperbolic polynomials, where I studied various related concepts such as generalized multiplier sequences, stability-preserving operations, jump systems, and generalized interlacing. This exploration eventually guided me toward Lorentzian polynomials. Roughly speaking, these are a generalization of real homogeneous stable polynomials from a combinatorial perspective. Though they hold a greater significance, particularly in relation to June Huh's vision of the Hodge-Riemann, which demands a deeper understanding of the subject. Since stable polynomials don't capture all matroids (for example Fano's matroid), Lorentzian polynomials appear to be the "correct" generalization. They are also in one-to-one correspondence with homogeneous completely log-concave and strongly log-concave polynomials, further supporting this idea. Finally, after establishing the so-called "Hodge-Riemann relations" in this context, I concluded the first part of my thesis project with some applications, such as demonstrating that homogeneous multivariate Tutte polynomials are Lorentzian and exploring Mason's conjectures.
- Polytope Algebra: Initially, I began reading "Hodge Theory for Combinatorial

Geometries" by Karim Adiprasito, June Huh, and Eric Katz. Early in the paper, the authors mentioned that their work is largely inspired by Peter McMullen's work on polytope algebra. This motivated me to study McMullen's work to gain a broader perspective on the overall framework. The theory begins by considering the free group generated by convex polytopes over a finite-dimensional vector space over a ordered field, with invariance under the group of translations and the valuation property. By defining multiplication as the Minkowski sum, one establish a ring structure that further extends to an almost-graded commutative algebra (arising from dilation). A key element in McMullen's proof is the ingenious idea of the logarithm of a polytope and then use of the algebra structure of a certain subring of II to extend this structure to the entire ring. This framework provides a complete theory of equidissectability under the group of translations. I am currently working on this project and aim to study McMullen's g-theorems and Hodge-Riemann relations in this context.

• Number Theory: I have done two projects in number theory during my summer breaks: one on elementary number theory and the other on algebraic number theory. Since this is not very relevant here, I will only briefly mention the topics I studied: quadratic congruences, arithmetic functions, Euler's theorem, primitive roots, numbers of special form, quadratic reciprocity, attempts at solutions of  $\sigma(n) = 2n + 1$ , where  $\sigma$  denotes the sum of divisors function; the ABC conjecture, Euclidean rings, Liouville's theorem, algebraic numbers and integers, integral bases and Dedekind domains.

# Statement of Purpose

During my exploration of combinatorics and its intersection with algebraic geometry, I felt as though I were a bird soaring above this vast landscape, observing patterns, connections, and structures unfold beneath me. I encountered many broad areas to explore and questions to answer. There are many fundamental ideas and structures I would like to study further, for example the Chow ring of a matroid, Hodge theory in combinatorics, or Hodge-Riemann relations in combinatorial structures. Here I have given a brief motivation to study stable polynomials further, but I also express my interest in pursuing a PhD project in combinatorial algebraic geometry through a project suggested by Dr. Farhad Babaee.

• Combinatorial Objects and Stable Polynomials in General Stable polynomials, historically originating from control theory, now appear almost everywhere in combinatorics and other branches of mathematics. Examples include basis generating polynomials for many matroids, sequences in enumerative combinatorics where counting certain families of structures indexed by some parameters leads to stable polynomials, and certain probability generating functions. Though they have been generalized to Lorentzian polynomials, I feel this notion contains more subtleties that need to be explored further.

There are many sequences in enumeration literature where we expect unimodality, and many where it is already known, stable polynomials also appears here: the stability of polynomials formed from these sequences very often implies log concavity,

which in turn implies unimodality. While this may not be a direct connection, it is a crucial one.

Another connection lies in the theory of negative dependence, where incorporating stable polynomials directly in the definition leads to a well-structured and expected theory.

A third connection emerges from a broader perspective in mathematics, motivated by G.C. Rota's philosophical note:

"The one contribution of mine that I hope will be remembered has consisted in just pointing out that all sorts of problems of combinatorics can be viewed as problems of the locations of zeros of certain polynomials...".

For instance, the Riemann Hypothesis is equivalent to  $\Omega$ -stability, where  $\Omega$  is  $\{z \mid \Re(z) \neq \frac{1}{2}\}$ . While this may seem like a strained connection, there exists literature explicitly motivated by understanding the zeta function through this perspective. Hence the motivation to have take a deeper look into stable polynomials from a more general prospective, here rather than posing a direct question, I am driven by curiosity to explore and better understand stability in this context.

# Conclusion

I hereby express my strong interest in pursuing a PhD at the University of Bristol under the guidance of Dr. Farhad Babaee, focusing on research at the intersection of combinatorics and algebraic geometry. I come from a background where education wasn't strongly emphasized, and the quality of resources was modest. Adjusting to the fast-paced academic environment at IISER was initially challenging. While this affected my grades at times, I gradually found my footing and developed a deep connection with mathematics, where ideas often reveal themselves through persistence and thoughtful reflection. I believe my curiosity, determination, and will for better understanding demonstrate my readiness for doctoral study. I would be deeply grateful to the University of Bristol, its Mathematics Department, and Dr. Babaee for the opportunity to contribute to this field under his guidance.



# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI (Ministry of Education, Govt. of India) Sector 81, Knowledge City, SAS Nagar, 140306, Punjab, India

# Five year BS-MS Dual Degree Programme Interim Grade Card

Name of the student

: HARPREET SINGH

Registration No.

: MS20049

Year & Month of Completion

: (Programme not complete)

Cumulative Performance Index (CPI) : 7.5

Code	Title of the Course Semester I	Cr	Gd	Code	Title of the Course	Cr	Gd
BI0101	Cellular basis of life	0			Semester II		
BI0111	Basic Biology Lab	3	A	BI0102	capiession & development	3	A
CHM101	Chemistry of elements & chemical	1	A	BI0112	Biology Lab II	1	A
	transformations	3	A	CHM102	morecules & symmetry	3	В
CHM111	Chemistry Lab I			CHM112	Chemistry Lab II	1	A
HSS101A	Language skills - A	1	В	HSS102	History of science	2	В
IDC101	Introduction to computers	2	A	IDC102	Hands-on electronics	2	A
MTH101	Symmetry	2	A	MTH102		3	В
PHY101	Mechanics	3	В	PHY102	Electromagnetism	3	В
PHY111	Physics Lab I	3	C	PHY112	Physics Laboratory II	1	A
	Semester III	1	A		Semester IV		71
BI0201	Genetics & evolution	0		BI0202	Behaviour & ecology	3	В
BI0211	Biology Lab III	3	В	BI0212		1	В
CHM201	Spectroscopic & other physical method	1	В	CHM202	a dynamics of chemical re-	3	В
CHM211	Chemistry Lab III	3	В		actions		
IDC205	Differential equation for scientists	1	В	CHM212	J Edib I v	1	A
MTH201	Curves & surfaces	2	A	HSS202		2	A
PHY201	Waves & optics	3	В	IDC207	chesty & cryptography	2	В
PHY211	Physics Lab III	3	В	MTH202	Probability & statistics	3	A
	Semester V	1	A	PHY202	Thermodynamics & statistical physics	3	В
IDC351	Seminar (Attending)			PHY212	Physics Laboratory IV	1	A
IDC409	Introduction to Data Science	1 4	A B		Semester VI		
MTH301	Real Analysis	4	С	IDC352	Seminar (Attending)	1	В
MTH302	Linear Algebra		В	IDC410	Machine learning	4	A
MTH303	Set Theory & Logic	4	В	MTH305	Complex analysis	4	D
MTH304	Group Theory	4	C	MTH306	Measure & Integration theroy	4	D
	Semester VII	4	C	MTH307	Topology	4	D
HSS304	Studio Art	1	4	MTH308	Rings & Modules	4	C
IDC402	Nonlinear Dynamics	4	A C		Semester VIII		
IDC451	Seminar (Delivering)	1	В	IDC407	Network Science	4	A
MTH402	Functional analysis	4	C	IDC452	Seminar (Delivering)	1	В
MTH403	Fields & Galois Theory	4	D	MTH408	Algebraic Topology	4	D
MTH406	Manifolds	4	F	MTH409	Discrete Mathematics	4	В
	Semester IX	4	Г	MTH418	Fuchsian Groups	4	D
MTH401	Ordinary differential equations	4	С	MTH420	Linear Operators on Hilbert Spaces	4	D
MTH404v2	Company to the first of the state of the sta		C	TDGG4:	Summer Semester 2022		
PRJ501A	Thesis Daniel I		A	IDC211	Workshop training	1	A
PRJ501B	Th! D 1 ***		A A				
	아이에 가는 사람들은 아이들이 하면 하는 것이 되었다.	0	11				

Date of Issue: February 3, 2025

Associate Dean Academics

Meaning of Grades: A=Excellent, B=Good, C=Average, D=Pass, F=Fail.
Points for Grades: A=10, B=8, C=6, D=4, F=0
CPI is the credit weighted average of points earned.

# \*toeflibt

# Singh, Harpreet

Last (Family/Surname) Name, First (Given) Name Middle Name

Email: Ms20049@iisermohali.ac.in

Singh, Harpreet Hostel 7, IISER Mohali SAS Nagar, Punjab(140306) Mohali, Punjab 140306 India



Institution **Department** Code Code

Test Date: November 09, 2024

**Appointment #:** 3328 2112 4062 5673

Native Language: Punjabi **Test Center Country:** India

Test Center: STN14925A - Edu Assist Services

Test Date: November 09, 2024

Total Score

□ Reading

out of 30

**Listening** 

Date of Birth: December 21, 2000

**Gender:** Male

Country of Birth: India

26 out of 30 Speaking

out of 30

Writing

out of 30

MyBest® Scores

Your highest section scores from all valid test dates, as of November 13, 2024.

Sum of Highest Section Scores

out of 120

Reading (0-30)

24 Test Date

Nov 09, 2024

Listening (0–30) Speaking (0–30)

26

Test Date

Nov 09, 2024

Writing (0-30)

Test Date Nov 09, 2024

Test Date Nov 09, 2024

#### SECURITY IDENTIFICATION

**ID Type:** PASSPORT

ID No.: xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx3264

**Issuing Country: India** 

A total score is not reported when one or more sections have not been administered. Expired scores are not included in *MyBest®* calculations.

79-79

#### THIS IS A PDF SCORE REPORT, DOWNLOADED AND PRINTED BY THE TEST TAKER.





# Score Ranges Total Score Range: 0-120

)
0
3
7
3

Listening	0-30
Advanced	22-30
High-Intermediate	17-21
Low-Intermediate	9–16
Below Low-Intermediate	0–8

Speaking	0-30
Advanced	25-30
High-Intermediate	20-24
Low-Intermediate	16–19
Basic	10–15
Below Basic	0–9

Writing	0-30
Advanced	24-30
High-Intermediate	17-23
Low-Intermediate	13–16
Basic	7–12
Below Basic	0–6

# Comparison to CEFR (Common European Framework Reference for Languages)

CEFR Level	Total Score
C2	114-120
C1	95-113
B2	72-94
B1	42-71
A2	Below 42

### **Institution Codes**

Department	Where the Report was Sent
00	Admissions office for undergraduate study
01, 04-41, 43-98	Admissions office graduate study in the field other than management (business) or law according to the codes selected when you registered
02	Admissions office of a graduate school of management (business)
03	Admissions office of a graduate school of law
42	Admissions office of a school of medicine or nursing or licensing agency
99	Institution or agency that is not a college or university

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# भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली

#### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI

( शिक्षा मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार द्वारा स्थापित / Established By Ministry of Education, Govt. of India )

m www.iisermohali.ac.in

Sect. 81, PO Manauli, Mohali, Punjab, India-140306

**1** +91 (172) 2240 266

March 28, 2024

To. Admissions Committee,

University of Bristol.

### Sub: Recommendation for Mr. Harpreet Singh

Dear Admissions Committee.

It is my pleasure to recommend Mr. Harpreet Singh for the PhD program in mathematics at your university.

I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics at IISER Mohali working in Algebraic Geometry, particularly on motives associated with Shimura varieties. I have closely interacted with Mr. Harpreet Singh in various capacities since about three years — first as an instructor (Set Theory and Logic, 5th semester mandatory and Introduction to Commutative Algebra, 7th semester elective), and finally as an advisor for his Master's thesis (fifth year).

Mr. Harpreet Singh's primary interest has been combinatorics. He chose to work with me because as such the department here does not currently have a faculty working full-time in the area. For his thesis work he has been exploring work of June Huh, which I am also interested in given that it connects well with Algebraic Geometry.

Mr. Harpreet Singh started with exploring their work on stable polynomials and Lorentzian polynomials beginning with their 2010 Annals paper. These were then connected to the study of several polynomials (e.g. Tutte polynomials) arising in the study of graphs, and more generally, on matroids. Currently, he is exploring their relationship with Peter McMullen's work on polytope algebra. Our hope is that the thesis will have a concrete bearing within algebraic geometry — we observed before the start of this study that certain algebraic geometric objects (Abelian varieties, which are essentially complex tori) can also carry what are essentially analogues of polytope algebra and that it is therefore meaningful to ask natural analogies for notions of volume forms and corresponding polynomials.

As such his work is progressing well as is reflected in the mid term evaluation of the work (which included an external expert) and fetched an 'A' grade which is the highest grade here.

Mr. Harpreet Singh is a sincere student who needed some detours to figure out his area of primary interest. In the initial years of my acquaintance I was somewhat concerned with his mathematical progress (which also reflects in his lower CPI), but in the thesis year he has challenged this understanding and demonstrated that he is both capable of quality work and that he can work independently: note that my own interests are a bit divergent from the students' and he worked hard on his own to figure out the readings and material for a progress in the thesis. His current CPI is 7.3/10.0 which does not accurately reflects his ability: note that his SPI in the last semester is 8.7/10.0 which is a more accurate representation of where he stands.

Mr. Harpreet Singh is also a reasonable speaker and comfortable with English. Last few months he has been giving regular talks on his readings to my group, and they have been well received. Note that the medium of instruction here is English.

In summary, given the recent progress, and demonstrated work and work ethics, I have no hesitation recommending Mr. Harpreet Singh for the graduate program. I have no doubt that he will do very well under the able mentoring of your department.

Sincerely,

Dr. Vaibhav Vaish,

Department of Mathematical Sciences.







# भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान मोहाली

(मानव संसाधन विकास मंत्रालय का एक स्वायत संस्थान, भारत सरकार के अधीन) सैक्टर—81, नॉलेज सिटी, पो. ओ. मनौली. एस.ए.एस. नगर, मोहाली, पंजाब-140 306

### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH MOHALI

(Estd. By Ministry of Human Resource Development, Govt. of India)
Sector – 81, Knowledge City, P.O. Manauli, S.A.S. Nagar, Mohali, Punjab -140 306

#### Subject: Letter of Recommendation for PhD Application of Mr Harpreet Singh

Dear Members of the Admissions Committee.

I am pleased to write this letter in support of Harpreet Singh's application to the PhD program at the University of Bristol. As an Assistant Professor at the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) in Mohali, India, I have had extensive interactions with Harpreet as an instructor for multiple courses he has completed over the past four and a half years. Additionally, as a member of his MSc thesis monitoring group, I have closely followed his academic progress.

Harpreet is part of a cohort of 250 students whose academic journey at IISER Mohali began with their first semester conducted online. Despite the challenges of remote learning, he actively participated in classes, demonstrating remarkable dedication and enthusiasm for mathematics. Once in-person classes resumed, he enrolled in a Group Theory course under my guidance. While his scores were not exceptionally high, his commitment, attentiveness, and eagerness to learn were consistently evident.

Harpreet's engagement with advanced mathematical concepts deepened through his MSc thesis on Lorentzian Polynomials and Polytope Algebra. From his half-yearly presentations, it is clear that he has worked diligently to bridge gaps in his mathematical understanding while genuinely enjoying his exploration of Lorentzian polynomials—rigorously studying their properties, stability, and applications. His ability to comprehend the intricate connections between stability theory and combinatorial geometry speaks to his diligence, intellectual curiosity, and research potential.

Harpreet is ambitious and promising. His interest in further exploring the role of stable

polynomials in combinatorial structures reflects his forward-thinking perspective. While he may

not always be able to think on his feet, his perseverance in revisiting concepts until he achieves a

deep understanding has significantly contributed to his academic growth. His ability to tackle

complex mathematical challenges and articulate concepts he has explored over an extended

period makes him a valuable addition to any research group.

Beyond his academic abilities, Harpreet is a dedicated student with a strong work ethic. He is

respectful, kind, and deeply loyal to his peers. His passion for learning and collaborative nature

make him an excellent academic peer.

recommend Harpreet Singh for admission to your PhD program. He possesses the

mathematical insight, research experience, and determination necessary to make meaningful

contributions to the field. I am confident that he will thrive in your program and emerge as a

skilled researcher. Please feel free to contact me if you require any further information regarding

his application.

Sincerely,

Tanusree Khandai

**Assistant Professor** 

Department of Mathematics, IISER Mohali

Email: <u>tanusree@iisermohali.ac.in</u>

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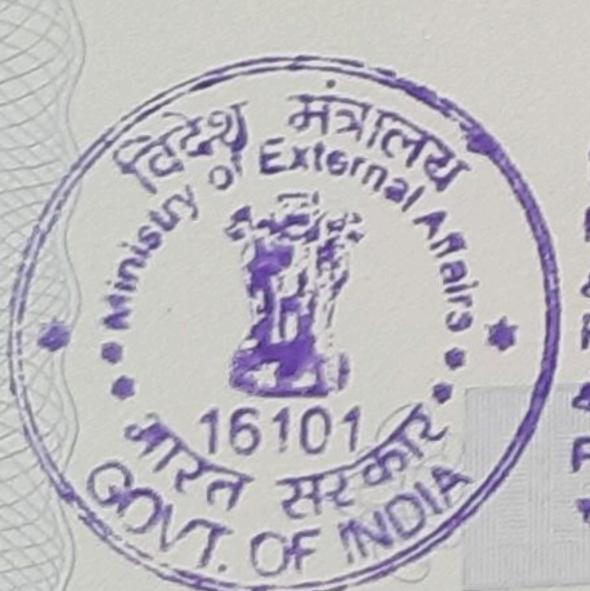
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OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA ALL THOSE TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN TO ALLOW THE BEARER TO PASS FREELY WITHOUT LET OR HINDRANCE AND TO AFFORD HIM OR HER, EVERY ASSISTANCE AND PROTECTION OF WHICH HE OR SHE MAY STAND IN NEED.

भारत गणराज्य के राष्ट्रपति के आदेश से BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA



प्रियंका मेहतानी, आई. एक. एस Priyanka Mehtani, I.F.S क्षेत्रीय पारपत्र अधिकारी Regional Passport Officer क्षेत्रीय पारपत्र कार्यालय Regional Passport Office चण्डीगढ़ /Chandigarh

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Harpreet Singh

दिया गया नाम / Given Name(s)

HARPREET SINGH

जन्मतिथि / Date of Birth

उपनाम / Surname

21/12/2000

जन्म स्थान / Place of Birth

KAKRA, PUNJAB

जारी करने का स्थान / Place of Issue

CHANDIGARH

जारी करने की तिथि / Date of Issue

08/11/2023

लिंग / Sex समाप्ति की तिथि / Date of Expiry

07/11/2033

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