

# QUALIFYING EXAM SYLLABUS

ZVI ROSEN

**Committee:** Bernd Sturmfels (advisor), Mark Haiman (chair),  
Dan-Virgil Voiculescu, Satish Rao (Computer Science)

## MAJOR TOPIC: COMMUTATIVE ALGEBRA (ALGEBRA)

- Noetherian, Artinian, Localization, Hom, Tensor Product, Spec.
- Associated Primes, Primary Decomposition, Prime Avoidance.
- Hilbert Basis Theorem, Noether Normalization, Nullstellensatz, Cayley-Hamilton Theorem, Nakayama's Lemma.
- **Integral Ring Extensions:** Integral Closure, Going-Up, Going-Down, Incomparable Property.
- **Gröbner Bases:** Monomial Orders, Ideal Membership, Elimination, Initial Ideals.
- **Combinatorial Commutative Algebra:** Stanley-Reisner Ideals, Alexander duality, Buchberger graphs, Hochster's formula, Resolutions (Eliashou-Kervaire, Cellular, Cocellular, Hull, Cohull, Taylor, Scarf).

Reference: Eisenbud, *Commutative Algebra with a View Towards Algebraic Geometry*, Chapters 1-4, 12-15

Miller & Sturmfels, *Combinatorial Commutative Algebra*, Chapters 1-4, 5.1-5.4, 6.1-6.2

## MAJOR TOPIC: ALGEBRAIC COMBINATORICS (ALGEBRA)

- **Enumeration:** Twelvelfold Way, Permutation Statistics (inversions, descents, etc.), Ordinary and exponential generating functions, species, Matrix-Tree theorem.
- **Symmetric Function Theory:** Bases for the space of symmetric functions, transition matrices, Jacobi-Trudi Identity, Kostka numbers, Littlewood-Richardson coefficients, Littlewood-Richardson rule.
- **Representations of the symmetric group:** Young tableaux and tabloids, Specht modules, irreducible representations and characters of the symmetric group, Schur functions.

Reference: Stanley, *Enumerative Combinatorics*, chapters 1 and 7.

Fulton, *Young Tableaux*, chapters 1-7.

Sagan, *The Symmetric Group*, chapter 2.

MINOR TOPIC: COMPLEX ANALYSIS (CLASSICAL ANALYSIS)

- **Holomorphic functions:** Cauchy-Riemann equations, conformal maps, linear fractional transformations, Taylor and Laurent series, Liouville's Theorem
- **Complex Integration:** Cauchy's Theorem, Cauchy's Integral Formula, Taylor's Theorem, Morera's Theorem, Maximum Modulus Principle, Residue Theorem, Argument Principle, Rouché's Theorem.
- Fundamental Theorem of Algebra (statement and proof).

Reference: Ahlfors, *Complex Analysis*, Chapters 1-4.