

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Alfred Young's Construction of the Irreducible Representations of <math>S_n</math></b>	<b>1</b>
1.1	Introduction	1
1.2	The Natural Representation Matrices	1
1.3	Young's Tableau Idempotents	5
1.4	Semisimplicity of Algebras	10
1.5	Young's Matrix Units for $\mathcal{A}(S_n)$	13
1.6	Properties of the Representations $\{A^\lambda\}_\lambda$ and Their Characters	25
1.7	The Frobenius Map	31
<b>2</b>	<b>Young's Seminormal Representation, Murphy Elements, and Content Evaluations</b>	<b>35</b>
2.1	Introduction	35
2.2	The Young Idempotents	36
2.3	Young's Seminormal Units	42
2.4	The Murphy Elements	55
2.5	The Seminormal Matrices	63
2.6	Murphy Elements and Conjugacy Classes	73
<b>3</b>	<b>On Finite Dimensional <math>\mathfrak{sl}(2)</math> Representations and an Application to Algebraic Combinatorics</b>	<b>97</b>
3.1	Basic Identities	97
3.2	Diagonalizability of $H$	102
3.3	Spernerity of $L[m, n]$	123
<b>4</b>	<b>Heaps, Continued Fractions, and Orthogonal Polynomials</b>	<b>137</b>
4.1	Introduction	137
4.2	Heaps of Monomers and Dimers	137
4.3	The Cartier–Foata Languages	140
4.4	Orthogonal Polynomials and Continued Fractions	146
4.5	Moments and Motzkin Paths	152
4.6	Chebyshev Polynomials	164

4.7	The Rogers–Ramanujan Continued Fraction .....	168
4.8	Partitions and Hermite Polynomials .....	173
4.9	The Legendre Polynomials .....	181
4.10	The Laguerre Polynomials .....	183
<b>5</b>	<b>Finite Fields</b> .....	<b>187</b>
5.1	Introduction .....	187
5.2	The Euclidean Algorithm .....	188
5.3	Polynomial Factorization .....	192
5.4	Cyclotomic Polynomials .....	197
5.5	The Frobenius Map .....	209
5.6	A Factorization Algorithm .....	221
	<b>Glossary</b> .....	<b>225</b>
	<b>References</b> .....	<b>229</b>