

Math 239/Stat 260: Algebraic Statistics

Homework # 1

Due: Sunday, September 14, 2008

Name of Student: **your name here**

Assigned Section: **your section here**

In this first homework, all students are asked to download the book manuscript *Lectures on Algebraic Statistics* by Mathias Drton, Bernd Sturmfels and Seth Sullivant, and to read one of the sections very very carefully. This exercise will not just benefit you but also the (selfish) book authors who have a deadline of September 30 to submit the final version to the publisher.

To maximize everyone's benefit, each section will be assigned to a different student. You are asked to read your assigned section word by word and to try to understand as much of the material as possible. When you are done, please write a detailed *referee report* about your section. In your report, please include everything that seems relevant to you, from missing commas and unclear explanations to mistakes in the main theorems (include explicit counterexamples whenever possible). Please e-submit your report to

bernd@math.berkeley.edu

P.S. Mathias, Seth and I will be very grateful for your help, as will all future readers of this book after it has been published.