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**Exam Date:** December 1, 2023

### 1. MAJOR TOPIC: SPECTRAL GRAPH THEORY

**Linear Algebra Preliminaries.** (Spielman 2, 4) spectral theorem, Rayleigh quotients, Courant-Fischer, positive (semi-)definiteness, Perron-Frobenius, eigenvalue interlacing

**Laplacians.** (Trevisan 3-5, Williamson 5-7) standard / normalized Laplacian, eigenvalues and connectivity / cuts, matrix-tree theorem, edge expansion and conductance, Cheeger's Inequality

**Sparse Cut Problems.** (Trevisan 10-15, Matousek 4.2-4.3, Rothvoss) uniform and nonuniform sparsity, Leighton-Rao, Bourgain's theorem, Geomans-Linial/ARV

**Expander Graphs.** (Trevisan 16-21) characters, Cayley graphs of Abelian groups, Zig-Zag product, Marguli-Gabber-Galil Expanders, quasirandomness, random walks on expanders

**Potential Theory.** (Spielman 10-13) random walks on graphs, spring and resistor networks, effective resistance, Schur complements, random spanning trees

### 2. MAJOR TOPIC: PROBABILITY THEORY

**Measure Theory.** (Durrett 1,2)  $\sigma$ -algebras, Caratheodory's extension theorem, DCT, MCT, Fatou's lemma, monotone class lemma, Fubini's theorem, independence, Borel-Cantelli lemmas

**Random Sequence and Series.** (Durrett 2) modes of convergence, WLLN, SLLN, Glivenko-Cantelli, Portmanteau, Helly's selection theorem, tightness

**Characteristic Functions and Central Limit Theorem.** (Durrett 3) inversion formula, uniqueness and continuity, central limit theorem for iid sequence, Lindeberg-Feller CLT, Poisson convergence theorem

**Martingales and Conditioning.** (Durrett 4) Lebesgue-Radon-Nikodym theorem, conditional expectation, filtrations, stopping times, martingales, uniform integrability

**Markov Chains.** (LPW 4.3, 5, 1.6, 12.1-12.4, 13.1-13.3, 18.1-18.3, 20) asymptotic convergence, coupling, Wasserstein distance, reversibility, topics relating to spectra, cutoff, continuous-time Markov chains

### 3. MINOR TOPIC: ANALYSIS OF BOOLEAN FUNCTIONS

**Fourier expansion.** (O'Donnell 1) orthonormal basis of parity functions, basic Fourier formulas, probability densities, convolution, almost linear functions, BLR test

**Basic concepts and social choice.** (O'Donnell 2.1-2.3) social choice functions, influences and derivatives, total influence

**Majority and threshold functions.** (O'Donnell 5.1, 5.2, 5.5) linear threshold functions, polynomial threshold functions, majority, CLT, Peres's theorem, uniform noise stability

**Hypercontractivity.** (O'Donnell 9.1, 9.6) Bonami's lemma, Kahn, Kalai, Linial theorem, Friedgut's Junta lemma