

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910484758503321
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Titolo	Lectures in Algebraic Combinatorics : Young's Construction, Seminormal Representations, SL(2) Representations, Heaps, Basics on Finite Fields // by Adriano M. Garsia, Ömer Eeciolu
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cham : , : Springer International Publishing : , : Imprint : Springer, , 2020
ISBN	3-030-58373-2
Edizione	[1st ed. 2020.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (XIV, 232 p. 36 illus.)
Collana	Lecture Notes in Mathematics, , 1617-9692 ; ; 2277
Disciplina	511.6
Soggetti	Algebraic fields Polynomials Group theory Commutative algebra Commutative rings Field Theory and Polynomials Group Theory and Generalizations Commutative Rings and Algebras
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Sommario/riassunto	Capturing Adriano Garsia's unique perspective on essential topics in algebraic combinatorics, this book consists of selected, classic notes on a number of topics based on lectures held at the University of California, San Diego over the past few decades. The topics presented share a common theme of describing interesting interplays between algebraic topics such as representation theory and elegant structures which are sometimes thought of as being outside the purview of classical combinatorics. The lectures reflect Garsia's inimitable narrative style and his exceptional expository ability. The preface presents the historical viewpoint as well as Garsia's personal insights into the subject matter. The lectures then start with a clear treatment of Alfred Young's construction of the irreducible representations of the symmetric group, seminormal representations and Morphy elements.

This is followed by an elegant application of $SL(2)$ representations to algebraic combinatorics. The last two lectures are on heaps, continued fractions and orthogonal polynomials with applications, and finally there is an exposition on the theory of finite fields. The book is aimed at graduate students and researchers in the field.
