Oral Qualifying Exam Syllabus

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I. Major Topic: Fractal Sets and Dimensions

1. Introduction

- Definition of Hausdorff measure and Hausdorff dimension
- Basic properties
- Vitali covering theorem
- Calculation of Hausdorff dimension and measure for Cantor set

2. Self-similar sets and Hutchinson's theorem

- Contractions and Similitudes
- Invariant sets and self-similar sets
- Open set condition
- The Hutchinson's theorem

3. Apollonian packings

- Lower and upper bounds for the Hausdorff dimension of the residual set for the Apollonian packing
- The disk-packing constant
- 4. Basic density properties
 - Upper and lower densities
 - Regular and irregular sets
 - Elementary density bounds

II. Minor Topic: Linear Operator Theory

1. Bounded Linear operators on Hilbert spaces

• Some examples of bounded linear operators with estimates of norms

- Bounded linear functionals and the Riesz representation theorem
- Self adjoint and normal operators
- Compact operators
- 2. Spectral Theory
 - Spectrum and resolvent
 - Spectral radius
 - Functional Calculus
 - Spectral theorem for compact self adjoint operators
 - Spectral theorem for compact normal operators
 - Spectral theorem for bounded self adjoint operators
- 3. Trace class and Hilbert-Schmidt operators
- 4. Trace and determinant

References

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- [B] Boyd, D.W., The Disk-Packing Constant, Aequationes Mathematicae 7, 182-193, 1971.
- [B] Boyd, D.W., The Residual Set Dimension of the Apollonian Packing, Mathematika 20, 170-174, 1973.
- [GG] Gohberg, I., Goldberg, S., Basic Operator Theory, Birkhäuser, 1981.
- [GGK] Gohberg, I., Goldberg, S., Kaashoek, M.A., Classes of Linear Operators Vol.I, Birkhäuser, 1990.