

1083-13-46

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Some problems in combinatorial commutative algebra motivated by commutative algebra.

We will describe several problems in commutative algebra that have interesting combinatorial interpretations when specialized to the case of Stanley-Reisner rings: bounding projective dimensions, equality of ordinary and symbolic powers. Some of the results are joint work with Craig Huneke and Jay Schweig. (Received August 08, 2012)