# **Euclidean Ramsey Theory: Triangles**

## **Exposition by William Gasarch**

December 31, 2024

#### **Credit Where Credit is Due**

The the main thm of these slides is due to Paul Erdös, Ronald Graham, Peter Montgomery, Bruce L. Rothchild, Joel Spencer, Ernst G. Straus.

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#### **Euclidean Ramsey Theorems I**

Journal of Combinaorical Theory (A), Vol. 14, 341-363, 1973

Here is a link. https://www.cs.umd.edu/~gasarch/TOPICS/eramsey/ eramseyOne.pdf

#### Want an Equilateral Triangle

**Def** A **mono eq-tri** is an **equilateral triangle** where all the vertices are the same color.

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### Want an Equilateral Triangle

**Def** A **mono eq-tri** is an **equilateral triangle** where all the vertices are the same color.

#### Vote

1)  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  a mono eq-tri.

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#### Vote

- 1)  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  a mono eq-tri.
- 2)  $\exists$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$  such that there are no mono eq-tri.

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Answer on next slide

**Thm**  $\exists$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$  with no mono Eq-Tri.



#### Thm $\exists \operatorname{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ with no mono Eq-Tri.

Leave as an exercise.



Thm  $\exists$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$  with no mono Eq-Tri. Leave as an exercise. So we can't always get a mono Eq-Tri. :-(



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Thm  $\exists \text{ COL}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$  with no mono Eq-Tri. Leave as an exercise. So we can't always get a mono Eq-Tri. :-( How about a 2 - 2 - 2 triangle? :-) Thats stupid! Just scale the coloring. :-( New Question either a mono 1 - 1 - 1 or mono 2 - 2 - 2 or  $\cdots$ .

Let  $T_{\alpha}$  be the  $\alpha - \alpha - \alpha$  Eq Triangle.



- Let  $T_{\alpha}$  be the  $\alpha \alpha \alpha$  Eq Triangle.
- $T_{\alpha}$  is mono if all of the vertices are the same color.

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 $T_{\alpha}$  is mono if all of the vertices are the same color.

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Thm  $\forall \mathrm{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  either

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```
Thm \forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] either \exists a mono T_2, or
```

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Thm  $\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  either  $\exists$  a mono  $T_2$ , or  $\exists$  a mono  $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$ , or

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Thm \forall \text{COL} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] either

\exists a mono T_2, or

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\exists a mono T_4.
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**Thm**  $\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  either  $\exists$  a mono  $T_2$ , or  $\exists$  a mono  $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$ , or  $\exists$  a mono  $T_4$ . We prove this rather than  $T_1 - T_{\sqrt{3}} - T_2$  since this makes the figures easier to draw.

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Thm 
$$\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$$
 either  
 $\exists$  a mono  $T_2$ , or  
 $\exists$  a mono  $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$ , or  
 $\exists$  a mono  $T_4$ .  
Assume by way of contradiction that there is a  $\text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ 

with no mono  $T_2$ ,  $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$  or  $T_4$ .

#### There are Two R Points Two Apart

By Thm from last lecture  $\exists$  two points, an inch apart, same color. We can assume that (0,0) and (2,0) are **R**.

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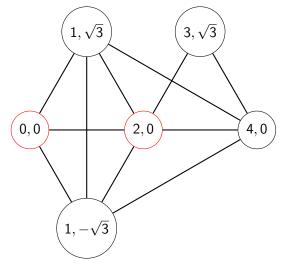


On the next slide we add four more points of interest.

#### **Six Point of Interest**

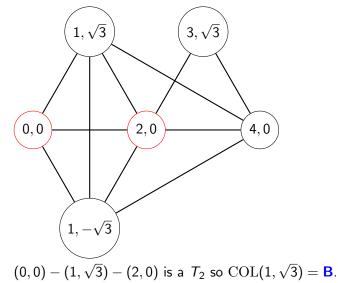
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## **Six Point of Interest**



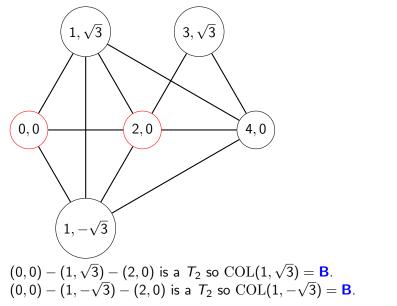
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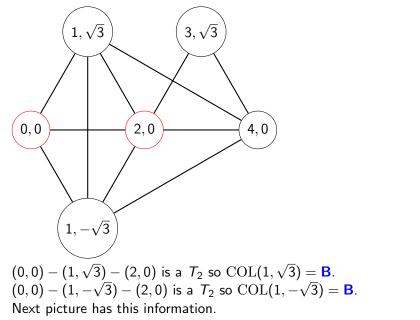


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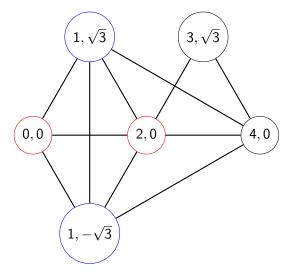
#### **Six Point of Interest**



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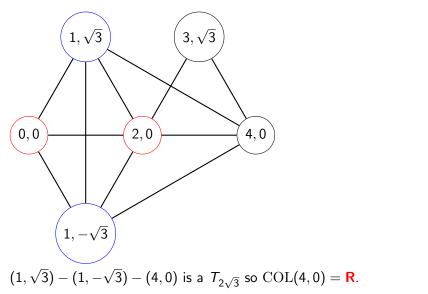


 $(1,\sqrt{3})$  and  $(1,-\sqrt{3})$  are B



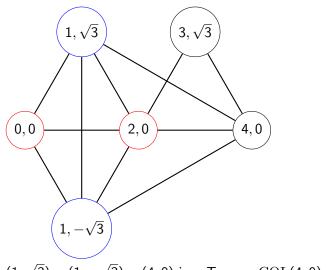
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 $(1,\sqrt{3})$  and  $(1,-\sqrt{3})$  are B

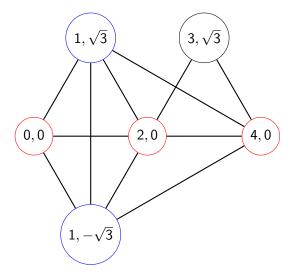


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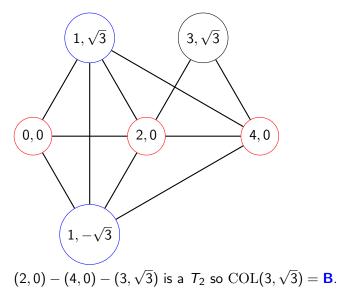


 $(1,\sqrt{3}) - (1,-\sqrt{3}) - (4,0)$  is a  $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$  so  $\text{COL}(4,0) = \mathbb{R}$ . Next picture has this information.  $(\mathbf{4},\mathbf{0})$  is R



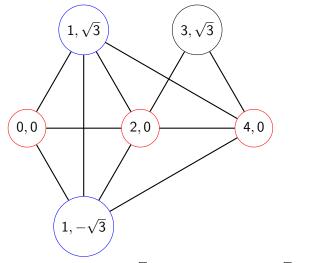
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(4,0) is **R** 



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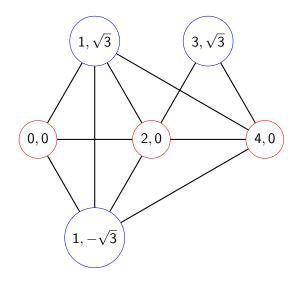
(4,0) is **R** 



 $(2,0) - (4,0) - (3,\sqrt{3})$  is a  $T_2$  so  $COL(3,\sqrt{3}) = B$ . Next picture has this info.

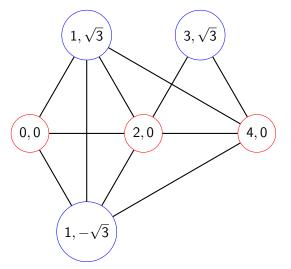
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 $(\mathbf{3},\sqrt{\mathbf{3}})$  is **B** 



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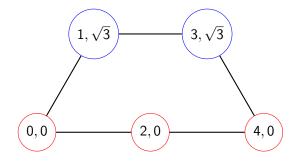
 $(3,\sqrt{3})$  is **B** 



Next picture removes stuff we don't need anymore.

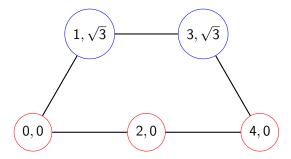
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#### Where We Are Now



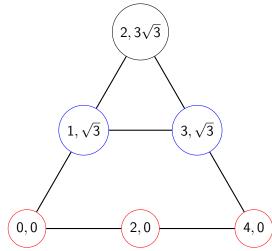
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#### Where We Are Now

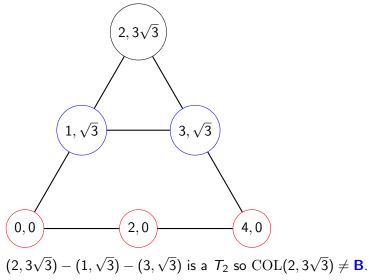


We add a the point  $(2, 2\sqrt{3})$  on the next slide.

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