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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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_{α} be the $\alpha - \alpha - \alpha$ Eq Triangle.



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

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 T_{α} 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

\exists a mono T_{2\sqrt{3}}, or

\exists a mono T_4.
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Let T_{α} be the $\alpha - \alpha - \alpha$ Eq Triangle.

 T_{α} is **mono** if all of the vertices are the same color.

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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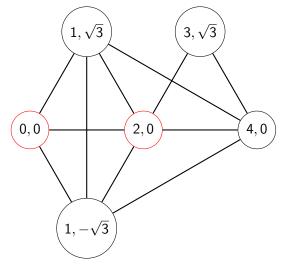


On the next slide we add four more points of interest.

Six Point of Interest

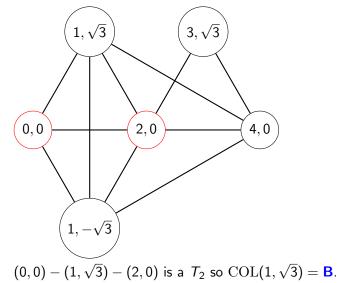
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Six Point of Interest



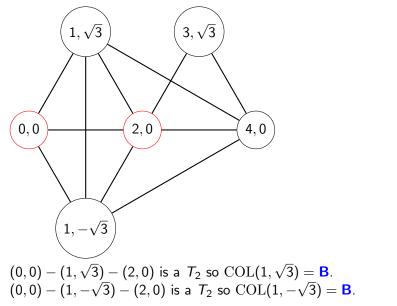
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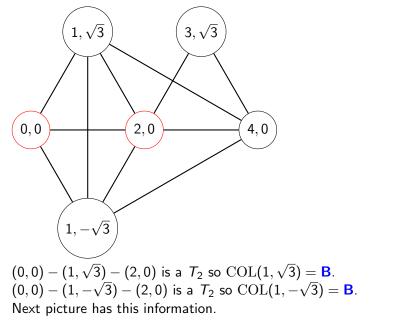


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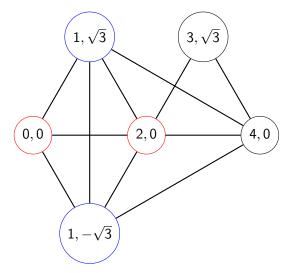
Six Point of Interest



Six Point of Interest

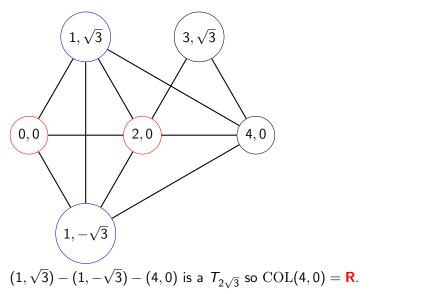


 $(1,\sqrt{3})$ and $(1,-\sqrt{3})$ are B



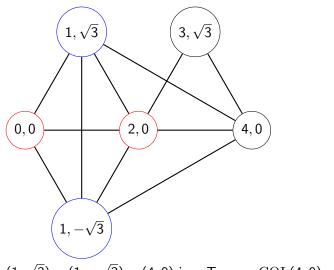
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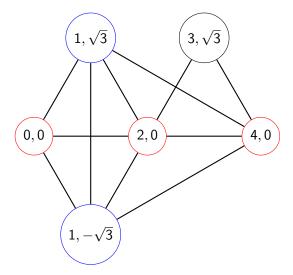


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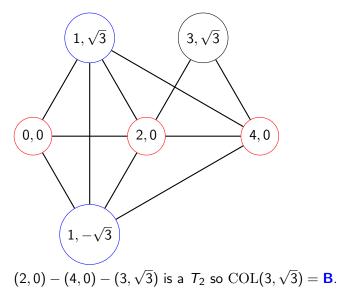


 $(1,\sqrt{3}) - (1,-\sqrt{3}) - (4,0)$ is a $T_{2\sqrt{3}}$ so $\text{COL}(4,0) = \mathbb{R}$. Next picture has this information. $(\mathbf{4},\mathbf{0})$ is R



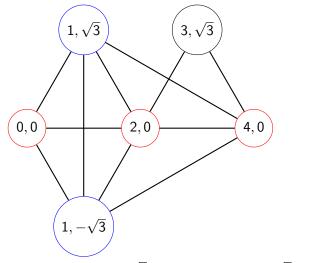
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(4,0) is **R**



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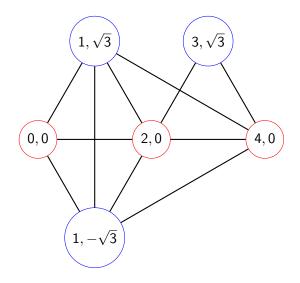
(4,0) is **R**



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

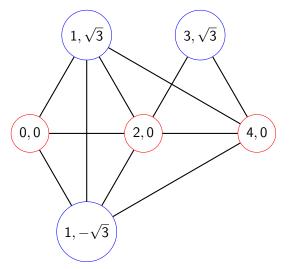
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 $(\mathbf{3},\sqrt{\mathbf{3}})$ is **B**



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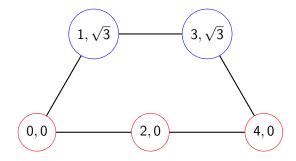
 $(3,\sqrt{3})$ is **B**



Next picture removes stuff we don't need anymore.

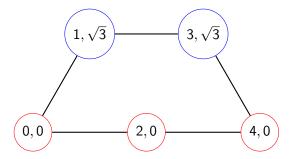
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Where We Are Now



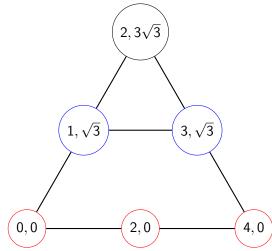
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Where We Are Now

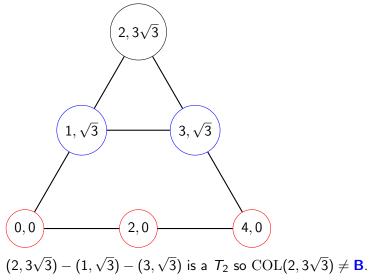


We add a the point $(2, 2\sqrt{3})$ on the next slide.

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