From Infinite Ramsey To Finite Ramsey

Exposition by William Gasarch

December 7, 2024

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Let $a, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let A be a set. A can be finite or infinite.

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Let $a, n \in \mathbb{N}$. Let A be a set. A can be finite or infinite. 1. N is the naturals which are $\{1, 2, 3, \ldots\}$.

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- 2. $[n] = \{1, \ldots, n\}.$

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- 3. 2^A is the powerset of A.

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- 2. $[n] = \{1, \ldots, n\}.$
- 3. 2^A is the powerset of A.
- 4. $\binom{A}{a}$ is the set of all *a*-sized subsets of A.

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$$
[n] = \{1, ..., n\}.
$$

- 3. 2^A is the powerset of A.
- 4. $\binom{A}{a}$ is the set of all *a*-sized subsets of A.

Let $\mathrm{COL}\colon\binom{A}{2}\to [2]$. A set $H\subseteq A$ is homogenous if COL restricted to $\binom{H}{2}$ is constant. (From now on $\bm{\text{homog.}}$)

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Infinite Ramsey Thm

Infinite Ramsey Thm **Thm** For all $\text{COL}: \binom{\mathbb{N}}{2} \to [2]$ there exists an infinite homog set.

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Finite Ramsey Thm

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We have already proven the **Infinite Ramsey Thm.**

We will prove The Finite Ramsey from The Infinite Ramsey.

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Proof of the Finite Ramsey Thm From The Infinite Ramsey Thm

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Assume, by way of contradiction, that

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 $(\exists k)(\forall n)(\exists\mathrm{COL}$: $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ with no homog set of size k).

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Say $k=182$. There is a coloring of $\binom{[10^{100}]}{2}$ $\binom{1000}{2}$ with no homog set of size 182.

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 $(\exists k)(\forall n)(\exists\mathrm{COL}$: $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ with no homog set of size k).

Say $k=182$. There is a coloring of $\binom{[10^{100}]}{2}$ $\binom{1000}{2}$ with no homog set of size 182. That seems unlikely.

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Let e_1, e_2, e_3, \ldots be a list of every element of $\binom{\mathbb{N}}{2}$.

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Let e_1, e_2, e_3, \ldots be a list of every element of $\binom{\mathbb{N}}{2}$. We will color e_1 , then e_2 , etc.

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Let e_1, e_2, e_3, \ldots be a list of every element of $\binom{\mathbb{N}}{2}$. We will color e_1 , then e_2 , etc. Let $e_1 = (1, 2)$.

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Let e_1, e_2, e_3, \ldots be a list of every element of $\binom{\mathbb{N}}{2}$. We will color e_1 , then e_2 , etc. Let $e_1 = (1, 2)$. How should we color e_1 ? Discuss. Answer on the next slide

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 $COL₀$ colors $(1, 2)$ R

 $COL₀$ colors $(1, 2)$ R $COL₁$ colors $(1, 2)$ **B**

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- $COL₀$ colors $(1, 2)$ R
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- $COL₂$ colors $(1, 2)$ **B**
- $COL₃$ colors $(1, 2)$ R

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. (No pattern implied)

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In this list either \bf{R} or \bf{B} occurs infinitely often.

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 $COL(e_1) = R$ if $|\{y: COL_v(e_1) = R\}| = \infty$, B OW.

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What about e_2 ?

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What about e_2 ? Discuss. Answer on Next Slide.

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No!

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No! (you probably guessed that from my You might think)

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We only want to use the COL_v that gave e_1 the correct color.

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 $COL(e_2) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y: COL_y(e_2) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW.

No! (you probably guessed that from my **You might think)**

We only want to use the COL_v that gave e_1 the correct color. $COL(e_2) = R$ if $|\{\mathbf{y}: \mathrm{COL}_{\mathbf{v}}(e_2) = \mathbf{R} \wedge \mathrm{COL}_{\mathbf{v}}(e_1) = \mathrm{COL}(e_1)\}| = \infty$, **B** OW.

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We do the full COL on the next slide.

 $I_1 = \mathbb{N}$ (I_s will be the COL_y still alive. It will be ∞ .)

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I_2 = \{y \in I_1 \colon \mathrm{COL}_y(e_1) = \mathrm{COL}(e_1)\}
$$

 $I_1 = \mathbb{N}$ (I_s will be the COL_v still alive. It will be ∞ .) $COL(e_1) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_1 : COL_v(e_1) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW. $I_2 = \{y \in I_1 : \text{COL}_y(e_1) = \text{COL}(e_1)\}\$ $COL(e_2) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_2 : COL_v(e_2) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW.

 $I_1 = \mathbb{N}$ (I_s will be the COL_v still alive. It will be ∞ .) $COL(e_1) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_1 : COL_y(e_1) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW. $I_2 = \{y \in I_1 : \text{COL}_y(e_1) = \text{COL}(e_1)\}\$ $COL(e_2) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_2 : COL_v(e_2) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$. **B** OW. Assume $COL(e_1), \ldots, COL(e_s), I_{s+1}$ are defined.

 $I_1 = \mathbb{N}$ (I_s will be the COL_v still alive. It will be ∞ .) $COL(e_1) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_1 : COL_y(e_1) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW. $I_2 = \{y \in I_1 : \text{COL}_y(e_1) = \text{COL}(e_1)\}\$ $COL(e_2) = \mathbf{R}$ if $|\{y \in I_2 : COL_v(e_2) = \mathbf{R}\}| = \infty$, **B** OW. Assume $COL(e_1), \ldots, COL(e_s), I_{s+1}$ are defined. $COL(e_{s+1}) = R$ if $|\{y \in I_{s+1} : COL_v(e_{s+1}) = R\}| = \infty$, B OW.

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I_{s+2} = \{ y \in I_{s+1} : \text{COL}_y(e_{s+1}) = \text{COL}(e_{s+1}) \}
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We have defined $\mathrm{COL} \colon \binom{\mathbb{N}}{2} \to [2].$

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By The Infinite Ramsey Thm there exists infinite homog set

$$
H = \{x_1 < x_2 < x_3 < x_4 < \cdots\}
$$

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Look at COL restricted to $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$.

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\mathit{H} = \{ x_1 < x_2 < x_3 < x_4 < \cdots \}
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Look at COL restricted to $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$. By the construction there is an L (actually infinitely many L) such that COL and COL_L agree on $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$.

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Look at COL restricted to $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$. By the construction there is an L (actually infinitely many L) such that COL and COL_L agree on $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$. Hence there is a homog set of size k for COL_L .

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Look at COL restricted to $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$. By the construction there is an L (actually infinitely many L) such that COL and COL_L agree on $\binom{\{x_1,...,x_k\}}{2}$. Hence there is a homog set of size k for COL_L . This is a contradiction since COL_L has no homog sets of size k.

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Comments On The Proof

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Thm For all k there exists $n = R(k)$ such that for all COL: $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ there exists a homog set of size k.

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Thm For all k there exists $n = R(k)$ such that for all COL: $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ there exists a homog set of size k. **BILL:** So we have proven that, for all k, there is an $n = R(k)$.

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Thm For all k there exists $n = R(k)$ such that for all COL: $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ there exists a homog set of size k. **BILL:** So we have proven that, for all k, there is an $n = R(k)$. **STUDENT:** Great! what is $R(10)$? **BILL:** We showed $R(10)$ exists by showing there is SOME n such that for all COL : $\binom{[n]}{2}$ $\binom{n}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ there is a homog set of size k.

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