# From Infinite Ramsey To Finite Ramsey

**Exposition by William Gasarch** 

December 7, 2024

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

Let COL:  $\binom{A}{2} \rightarrow [2]$ . A set  $H \subseteq A$  is **homogenous** if COL restricted to  $\binom{H}{2}$  is constant. (From now on **homog**.)

**Infinite Ramsey Thm** 

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We will prove The Finite Ramsey from The Infinite Ramsey.

# Proof of the Finite Ramsey Thm From The Infinite Ramsey Thm

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

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

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

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

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The following exist

 $COL_0: \binom{[k]}{2} \to [2]$  with no homog set of size k.

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 $COL_1: {[k+1] \choose 2} \to [2]$  with no homog set of size k.

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 $COL_1: {[k+1] \choose 2} \rightarrow [2]$  with no homog set of size k.

 $COL_2: \binom{[k+2]}{2} \to [2]$  with no homog set of size k.

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(\exists k)(\forall n)(\exists COL: \binom{[n]}{2}) \rightarrow [2] with no homog set of size k). The following exist COL_0: \binom{[k]}{2} \rightarrow [2] with no homog set of size k. COL_1: \binom{[k+1]}{2} \rightarrow [2] with no homog set of size k. COL_2: \binom{[k+2]}{2} \rightarrow [2] with no homog set of size k. \vdots \vdots \vdots
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We use COL_0, COL_1, \ldots to form
COL: \binom{\mathbb{N}}{2} \to [2].
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We will use the inf Ramsey Theory to get a contradiction.

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Let e_1 = (1, 2). How should we color e_1?
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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

 $COL_0$  colors (1,2) R

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 $\mathrm{COL}_3$  colors (1,2)  $\mbox{\it I\hskip -2pt R}$ 

```
\begin{array}{l} \mathrm{COL}_0 \ \mathsf{colors} \ (1,2) \ \mathsf{R} \\ \mathrm{COL}_1 \ \mathsf{colors} \ (1,2) \ \mathsf{B} \\ \mathrm{COL}_2 \ \mathsf{colors} \ (1,2) \ \mathsf{B} \\ \mathrm{COL}_3 \ \mathsf{colors} \ (1,2) \ \mathsf{R} \\ \vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad (\mathsf{No} \ \mathsf{pattern} \ \mathsf{implied}) \end{array}
```

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In this list either R or B occurs infinitely often.
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COL<sub>0</sub> colors (1,2) {\sf R}

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COL<sub>3</sub> colors (1,2) {\sf R}

\vdots (No pattern implied)

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

COL(e_1) = {\sf R} if |\{y\colon {\sf COL}_v(e_1)={\sf R}\}|=\infty, {\sf B} OW.
```

What about  $e_2$ ?

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COL(e_1) = \mathbb{R} \text{ if } |\{y : COL_v(e_1) = \mathbb{R}\}| = \infty, \mathbb{B} \text{ OW}.
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What about  $e_2$ ? Discuss.

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\begin{split} &\operatorname{COL_0} \, \operatorname{colors} \, (1,2) \, \, \textbf{R} \\ &\operatorname{COL_1} \, \operatorname{colors} \, (1,2) \, \, \textbf{B} \\ &\operatorname{COL_2} \, \operatorname{colors} \, (1,2) \, \, \textbf{B} \\ &\operatorname{COL_3} \, \operatorname{colors} \, (1,2) \, \, \textbf{R} \\ & \vdots \qquad \qquad (\text{No pattern implied}) \\ &\operatorname{In this list either} \, \textbf{R} \, \operatorname{or} \, \textbf{B} \, \operatorname{occurs infinitely often}. \\ &\operatorname{COL}(e_1) = \textbf{R} \, \operatorname{if} \, |\{y \colon \operatorname{COL}_y(e_1) = \textbf{R}\}| = \infty, \, \, \textbf{B} \, \operatorname{OW}. \end{split}
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What about  $e_2$ ? Discuss. Answer on Next Slide.

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 if

$$|\{y : \mathrm{COL}_y(e_2) = \mathbb{R} \wedge \mathrm{COL}_y(e_1) = \mathrm{COL}(e_1)\}| = \infty, \ \mathbb{B} \ \mathsf{OW}.$$

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We do the full COL on the next slide.

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

```
I_1=\mathbb{N} (I_s will be the \mathrm{COL}_y still alive. It will be \infty.) \mathrm{COL}(e_1)=\mathbf{R} if |\{y\in I_1\colon \mathrm{COL}_y(e_1)=\mathbf{R}\}|=\infty, B OW. I_2=\{y\in I_1\colon \mathrm{COL}_y(e_1)=\mathrm{COL}(e_1)\}
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COL(e_2) = \mathbb{R} if |\{y \in I_2 : COL_v(e_2) = \mathbb{R}\}| = \infty, B OW.
Assume COL(e_1), \ldots, COL(e_s), I_{s+1} are defined.
COL(e_{s+1}) = \mathbb{R} \text{ if } |\{v \in I_{s+1} : COL_v(e_{s+1}) = \mathbb{R}\}| = \infty, \mathbb{B} \text{ OW}.
I_{s+2} = \{ y \in I_{s+1} : COL_v(e_{s+1}) = COL(e_{s+1}) \}
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## Using $\operatorname{COL}$ To Get a Contradiction

We have defined  $COL: \binom{\mathbb{N}}{2} \to [2]$ .

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By The Infinite Ramsey Thm there exists infinite homog set

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

We have defined COL:  $\binom{\mathbb{N}}{2} \to [2]$ .

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

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

By the construction there is an L (actually infinitely many L) such that COL and  $COL_L$  agree on  $\binom{\{x_1,\dots,x_k\}}{2}$ .

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Hence there is a homog set of size k for  $COL_L$ .

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This is a contradiction since  $COL_L$  has no homog sets of size k.

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**BILL:** We showed R(10) exists by showing there is SOME n such that for all COL:  $\binom{[n]}{2} \to [2]$  there is a homog set of size k.

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**STUDENT:** Dagnabbit! I want a bound on R(10)!

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BILL: You want a bound on the factorial of R(10)?
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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} \rightarrow [2] there is a homog set of size k.
STUDENT: Surely the proof gives an upper bound on R(10)!
BILL: The proof is nonconstructive. And don't call me Shirley.
STUDENT: Dagnabbit! I want a bound on R(10)!
BILL: You want a bound on the factorial of R(10)?
STUDENT: No you muffinhead, I want a bound on R(10) and I
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BILL: Then you shall have it! Next lecture!
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