## BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# All 2-Coloring Of the Plane have a Red 2-Stick or Blue 3-stick

Exposition by William Gasarch-U of MD

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## **Credit Where Credit is Due**

The main result in these slides is due to Szlam (1999).



In the last lecture we proved



In the last lecture we proved Thm  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists 2$  points, same color, 1 inch apart.

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We rephrase this but first need some definitions.

#### Def

1)  $\ell_2$  is 2 points in the plane an inch apart. 2)  $\ell_3$  is three colinear points  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  where  $d(p_1, p_2) = d(p_2, p_3) = 1$ .

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#### Def

ℓ<sub>2</sub> is 2 points in the plane an inch apart.
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 You can define ℓ<sub>k</sub>.
 Given a COL: ℝ<sup>2</sup> → [2] a Red ℓ<sub>k</sub> is an ℓ<sub>k</sub> where all the points in it are Red. Similar for a Blue ℓ<sub>k</sub>

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We rephrase this but first need some definitions.

#### Def

1)  $\ell_2$  is 2 points in the plane an inch apart. 2)  $\ell_3$  is three colinear points  $p_1, p_2, p_3$  where  $d(p_1, p_2) = d(p_2, p_3) = 1$ . 3) You can define  $\ell_k$ . 4) Given a COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  a Red  $\ell_k$  is an  $\ell_k$  where all the points in it are Red. Similar for a Blue  $\ell_k$ And now the restatement

**Thm**  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a **Red**  $\ell_2$  or a **Blue**  $\ell_2$ .

Is the following true:



Is the following true:  $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{ either a } \text{Red } \ell_2 \text{ or a } \text{Blue } \ell_3.$ 

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#### Is the following true: $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{ either a } \text{Red } \ell_2 \text{ or a } \text{Blue } \ell_3.$ Vote

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## Is the following true: $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{ either a } \text{Red } \ell_2 \text{ or a } \text{Blue } \ell_3.$ **Vote**

Y,N, Unknown to Science!



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Answer on next slide

**Thm**  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a **Red**  $\ell_2$  or a **Blue**  $\ell_3$ .



Thm  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$ .

Thm  $\forall \text{ COL}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ .

Thm  $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done.

Thm  $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done. Case 2 There is no Blue  $\ell_3$ .

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Thm  $\forall \text{ COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done. Case 2 There is no Blue  $\ell_3$ . Hence for all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ ,

Thm  $\forall \text{ COL}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done. Case 2 There is no Blue  $\ell_3$ . Hence for all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , at least one of (x, y), (x, y + 1), (x, y + 2) is R.

Thm  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done. Case 2 There is no Blue  $\ell_3$ . Hence for all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , at least one of (x, y), (x, y + 1), (x, y + 2) is R. We define COL':  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [3]$  as follows:

Thm  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$ . Case 1 There exists a Blue  $\ell_3$ . Then done. Case 2 There is no Blue  $\ell_3$ . Hence for all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ , at least one of (x, y), (x, y + 1), (x, y + 2) is **R**. We define COL':  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [3]$  as follows: COL'(x, y) is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that COL $(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ .

**Thm**  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a **Red**  $\ell_2$  or a **Blue**  $\ell_3$ . Let COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$ . **Case 1** There exists a **Blue**  $\ell_3$ . Then done. **Case 2** There is no **Blue**  $\ell_3$ . Hence for all points  $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ . at least one of (x, y), (x, y + 1), (x, y + 2) is **R**. We define  $COL': \mathbb{R}^2 \to [3]$  as follows: COL'(x, y) is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $COL(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . This is well defined because of the case we are in.

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 $\operatorname{COL}'(x, y)$  is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $\operatorname{COL}(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ .

 $\operatorname{COL}'(x, y)$  is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $\operatorname{COL}(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that

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 $\operatorname{COL}'(x, y)$  is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $\operatorname{COL}(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$  and  $\operatorname{COL}'(x_1, y_1) = \operatorname{COL}'(x_2, y_2) = i$ .

 $\operatorname{COL}'(x, y)$  is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $\operatorname{COL}(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$  and  $\operatorname{COL}'(x_1, y_1) = \operatorname{COL}'(x_2, y_2) = i$ . Hence  $\operatorname{COL}(x_1, y_1 + i) = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\operatorname{COL}(x_2, y_2 + i) = \mathbb{R}$ 

COL'(x, y) is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $COL(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$  and  $COL'(x_1, y_1) = COL'(x_2, y_2) = i$ . Hence  $COL(x_1, y_1 + i) = \mathbb{R}$  and  $COL(x_2, y_2 + i) = \mathbb{R}$ Since  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$ ,  $d((x_1, y_1 + i), (x_2, y_2 + i)) = 1$ ,

COL'(x, y) is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $COL(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$  and  $COL'(x_1, y_1) = COL'(x_2, y_2) = i$ . Hence  $COL(x_1, y_1 + i) = \mathbb{R}$  and  $COL(x_2, y_2 + i) = \mathbb{R}$ Since  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$ ,  $d((x_1, y_1 + i), (x_2, y_2 + i)) = 1$ , So  $(x_1, y_1 + 1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2 + 1)$  are a Red  $\ell_2$ .

COL'(x, y) is the least  $i \in \{0, 1, 2\}$  such that  $COL(x, y + i) = \mathbb{R}$ . Chrom number of plane is  $\leq 3$ , so  $\exists (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  such that  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$  and  $COL'(x_1, y_1) = COL'(x_2, y_2) = i$ . Hence  $COL(x_1, y_1 + i) = \mathbb{R}$  and  $COL(x_2, y_2 + i) = \mathbb{R}$ Since  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 1$ ,  $d((x_1, y_1 + i), (x_2, y_2 + i)) = 1$ , So  $(x_1, y_1 + 1)$  and  $(x_2, y_2 + 1)$  are a Red  $\ell_2$ . Done!

#### Can Prove Result About $(\ell_2, \ell_4)$

Using that the Chromatic Number of the Plane  $(\chi)$  is  $\leq 4$  one can easily prove the following: Thm  $\forall \text{ COL}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_4$ .

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Using that the Chromatic Number of the Plane  $(\chi)$  is  $\leq 4$  one can easily prove the following: Thm  $\forall$  COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2] \exists$  either a Red  $\ell_2$  or a Blue  $\ell_4$ . Juhasz prove the above theorem without using  $\chi \leq 4$ . In fact, he

prove the theorem in 1979, 39 years before  $\chi \leq$  4 was proven.

#### **Notation** Let $a, b \ge 2$ . $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_n, \ell_m)$ means

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# Notation Let $a, b \geq 2$ . $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_n, \ell_m)$ means $\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{Red } \ell_n \text{ or Blue } \ell_m.$

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Notation Let  $a, b \geq 2$ .  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_n, \ell_m)$  means  $\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{Red } \ell_n \text{ or Blue } \ell_m.$ We proved  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_2, \ell_3).$ 

Notation Let  $a, b \ge 2$ .  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_n, \ell_m)$  means  $\forall \text{COL} \colon \mathbb{R}^2 \to [2] \exists \text{Red } \ell_n \text{ or Blue } \ell_m.$ We proved  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_2, \ell_3).$ We will soon present statements about  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_2, \ell_n)$ 

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The next two slides have statements about what is known.

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The next two slides have statements about what is known. If you know of any paper that should be on the list but is not, let me know.

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All of the papers referred to are on this website:

https://www.cs.umd.edu/~gasarch/TOPICS/ERT/ert.html

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# $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_2, \ell_n) \textbf{?}$

Author and Year	Result	About $\mathbb{R}^2$
Positive Results		
Szlam, 1999	$(\forall X)[ X =3]$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, X)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_3)$
Juhasz, 1979	$(\forall X)[ X =4]$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, X)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, \ell_4)$
	Congruence. See Paper.	
Tsaturian, 2017	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_5)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_5)$
Arman-Tsaturian, 2017	$\mathbb{R}^3  o (\ell_2, \ell_6)$	NONE
Negative Results		
Csizmadia-Togh 1994	$\exists X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ , $ X  = 8$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  eq (\ell_2, X)$	NONE
Conlon-Fox, 2018	$(\forall n \ge 2)$	
	$\mathbb{R}^n  eq (\ell_2, \ell_{10^{25}})$	$\mathbb{R}^2  eq (\ell_2, \ell_{10^{25}})$

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Positive Results		
Szlam, 1999	$(\forall X)[ X =3]$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, X)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_3)$
Juhasz, 1979	$(\forall X)[ X =4]$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, X)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2, \ell_4)$
	Congruence. See Paper.	
Tsaturian, 2017	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_5)$	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_2,\ell_5)$
Arman-Tsaturian, 2017	$\mathbb{R}^3  o (\ell_2,\ell_6)$	NONE
Negative Results		
Csizmadia-Togh 1994	$\exists X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$ , $ X  = 8$	
	$\mathbb{R}^2  eq (\ell_2, X)$	NONE
Conlon-Fox, 2018	$(\forall n \ge 2)$	
	$\mathbb{R}^n  earrow (\ell_2, \ell_{10^{25}})$	$\mathbb{R}^2  eq (\ell_2, \ell_{10^{25}})$

**Open** Narrow the gap between  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_2, \ell_5)$  and  $\mathbb{R}_2 \not\to (\ell_2, \ell_{10^{25}})$ .

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All of the negative results hold for all  $n \ge 2$ . Our interest is in the

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$\underline{n=2}$ case.	
Author and Year	Result
Positive Results	
Currier-Moore-Yip, 2024	$\mathbb{R}^2  o (\ell_3, \ell_3)$
Negative Results	
Conlon-Wu, 2022	$\mathbb{R}^n  eq (\ell_3, \ell_{10^{50}})$
Fuhrer-Toth, 2024	$\mathbb{R}^n  eq (\ell_3, \ell_{1177})$
Currier-Moore-Yip, 2024	$\mathbb{R}^n  eq (\ell_3, \ell_{20})$
	$\mathbb{R}^n eq (\ell_4,\ell_{18})$
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All of the negative results hold for all  $n \ge 2$ . Our interest is in the

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**Open Problems** 

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#### **Open Problems**

Narrow the gap between  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_3, \ell_3)$  and  $\mathbb{R}^2 \not\to (\ell_3, \ell_{20})$ .

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The results of Fuhrer-Togh and Currie-Moore-Yip are messy. For some reasonable values of *n* find nice proofs that  $\mathbb{R}^2 \not\rightarrow (\ell_3, \ell_n)$ .

	Author and Year	Result
N	legative Results	
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#### **Open Problems**

Find  $a, b \ge 4$  such that  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to (\ell_4, \ell_a)$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^2 \not\to (\ell_4, \ell_b)$ . It is possible that a does not exist and b = 4.

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