

## Ramsey's Thm (on graphs)

**Def:** A  $r$ -edge-coloring of  $K_n$  is a function  $f: E(K_n) \rightarrow [r]$ , which assigns a color  $c \in [r]$  to each edge of  $K_n$ .

If  $r=2$ , usually we assume that the colors are "red" and "blue".

**Def:** A  $k$ -clique (or  $K_k$ ) is monochromatic if all its edges are colored by the same color.

Thus, A party of six  $\Leftrightarrow$  any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_6$  has a monochromatic triangle.

**Thm (Ramsey):** Let  $k, l$  be integers at least 2. There exists an integer  $N$  s.t.

any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_N$  has a blue  $K_k$  or a red  $K_l$ .

The Pigeonhole Principle: Let  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  be disjoint sets, which form a partition of  $X$ , with  $|X| = n = \sum_{i=1}^r (a_i - 1)$ . Then there exists some  $i$  s.t.  $|A_i| \geq \frac{n}{r}$ .

**Proof:** We will show that  $N$  can be picked as  $N = \binom{k+l-2}{k-1}$ .

By induction on the sum  $(k+l)$

The base case ( $k=l=2$ ) is trivial.

In fact, when  $k=2$  or  $l=2$ , it is easy to see that  $N$  can be picked as  $\binom{k+l-2}{k-1}$ .

We need to show: any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_{\binom{k+l-2}{k-1}}$  has a blue  $K_k$  or a red  $K_l$ .

Write:  $N_1 = \binom{k-1+l-2}{k-1}$ ,  $N_2 = \binom{k+(l-1)-2}{k-1}$ .

so that  $N_1 + N_2 = \binom{k-1, l}{k-2} + \binom{k, l-1}{k-1} = \binom{k+l-2}{k-1} = N$ .

Fix a vertex  $u \in V(K_N)$  which can be arbitrary.

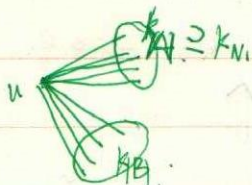
Then we partition  $V - \{u\}$  into a disjoint sets  $A$  and  $B$  by:

•  $A = \{v \in V - \{u\} : uv \text{ is blue}\}$ .

•  $B = \{v \in V - \{u\} : uv \text{ is red}\}$ .

$\Rightarrow |A| + |B| = N - 1 = N_1 + N_2 - 1$ . By P-P,  $|A| \geq N_1$  or  $|B| \geq N_2$ .

• Case 1:  $|A| \geq N_1$ . The vertices of  $A$  will contain a complete graph  $K_{N_1}$ ,



whose edges are colored by blue or red.

By induction for the pair  $(k-1, l)$ , the set  $A$  contains a blue  $K_{k-1}$  or a red  $K_l$ .

If  $A$  has a red  $K_l$ , then we are done.

Otherwise,  $A$  has a blue  $K_{k-1}$ . Since all edges between  $u$  and the vertices of  $A$  are blue, this blue  $K_{k-1}$  plus  $u$  give us a blue  $K_k$ . This proves case 1.

• Case 2:  $|B| \geq N_2$ . Similarly as case 1.

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**Def:** For  $\forall k, l \geq 2$ , the Ramsey Number  $R(k, l)$ :

Denote the smallest integer  $N$  s.t. any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_N$  contains a blue  $K_k$  or a red  $K_l$ .

(i).  $R(k, l) \leq M \Leftrightarrow$  any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_M$  has a blue  $K_k$  or a red  $K_l$ .

(ii).  $R(k, l) > P \Leftrightarrow \exists$  a 2-edge-coloring of  $K_P$  NOT containing blue  $K_k$  nor red  $K_l$ .

**Fact:**  $R(3, 3) = 6$ .

**Pf:** • A part of six tells us  $R(3, 3) \leq 6$ .

•  $R(3, 3) > 5$  没有蓝或红 in  $K_5$ . #

**Corollary:**  $R(k, l) \leq \binom{k+l-2}{k-1}$

Fact 2:  $R(k, l) = R(l, k)$ .

Fact 3:  $R(2, l) = l, R(k, 2) = k$ .

fact 4:  $R(3, 4) = 9 < 10$ .

Pf:  $R(3, 4) \leq \binom{3+4-2}{3-1} = 10$ .

$R(3, 4) > 8 \Leftrightarrow \exists$  a 2-edge-coloring of  $K_8$  with NO blue  $K_3$  nor red  $K_4$ .



← blue edge. The max independent set is of size 3.  
 $\Rightarrow$  NO red  $K_4$ .

$R(3, 4) \leq 9$  follows by the Next Thm 2:  $R(3, 4) \leq R(2, 4) + R(3, 3) - 1 = 9$ .

(Note that from the proof of Ramsey's Thm:)  
 $\nexists \underline{R(k, l) \leq R(k-1, l) + R(k, l-1)}$ . Exercise.



Thm 2: If both  $R(k-1, l)$  and  $R(k, l-1)$  are even, then  $\underline{R(k, l) \leq R(k-1, l) + R(k, l-1) - 1}$ .

Proof: Let  $n = R(k-1, l) + R(k, l-1) - 1$ . Consider any 2-edge-coloring of  $K_n$ .

For  $\forall v$ ,  

$$\begin{cases} B_v = \{y : yv \text{ is blue}\} \\ R_v = \{y : yv \text{ is red}\} \end{cases}$$

If  $\exists$  some  $v$ , st.  $|B_v| \geq R(k-1, l)$  or  $|R_v| \geq R(k, l-1)$ ,

then we can repeat the previous argument to either get a blue  $K_k$  or a red  $K_l$ .

(Rib) So we may assume:  $\forall v, |B_v| \leq R(k-1, l) - 1$  &  $|R_v| < R(k, l-1) - 1$ .

then  $m = |B_v| + |R_v| \leq R(k-1, l) + R(k, l-1) - 2 = m - 1$ .

$\Rightarrow \forall v, |B_v| = R(k-1, l) - 1$  and  $|R_v| = R(k, l-1) - 1$ .

$\Rightarrow$  consider the subgraph  $G$  induced by all blue edges.

Then,  $\forall v, d_G(v) = |B_v| = R(k-1, l) - 1$  is odd.

on the other hand,  $G$  has  $n$  vertices, which is odd.

$\sum_{v \in G} d_G(v) =$  sum of odd many terms, which are odd = odd. This is a contradiction.

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Exercise

Fact 5:  $R(4, 4) = 18$ ,  $R(3, 5) = 14$ ,  $R(4, 5) = 25$ .  
 $43 \leq R(5, 5) \leq 49$ .

Diagonal Ramsey Number:  $R(k, k)$

Thm 3: Let  $n$  and  $k$  satisfy  $\binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$ . Then  $R(k, k) > n$ .

Proof: We look for a 2-edge-coloring of  $K_n$  s.t. it has NO monochromatic  $K_k$ .

Consider a random 2-edge-coloring of  $K_n$ , where each edge is colored by blue or red with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ , independent of other edges.

For any  $X \in \binom{[n]}{k}$ . Let  $A_X$  be the event that  $X$  is a monochromatic  $K_k$ .

$\Rightarrow \Pr(A_X) = 2 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\binom{k}{2}} = 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$ .

$\Rightarrow \Pr\left(\bigcup_{X \in \binom{[n]}{k}} A_X\right)$  = probability of the event that  $\exists$  a monochromatic  $K_k$ .

if  $\Pr(\text{NO monochromatic } K_k) > 0$ , then  $R(k, k) > n$ .

$$\Pr(\text{NO monochromatic } K_k) = 1 - \Pr(\exists \text{ monochromatic } K_k)$$

$$= 1 - \Pr\left(\bigcup_X A_X\right) \geq 1 - \sum_X 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} = 1 - \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} > 0.$$

Corollary:  $R(k, k) > \frac{k}{e} \cdot 2^{\frac{k-1}{2}}$ .

Pf: Let  $n := \left(\frac{k}{e}\right) 2^{\frac{k-1}{2}} \left(\frac{e}{2}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}} > \frac{k}{e} \cdot 2^{\frac{k-1}{2}}$ .

It suffices to show:  $\binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1 \dots (*) \Rightarrow R(k, k) > n > \frac{k}{e} 2^{\frac{k-1}{2}}$ .

Verify (\*):  $\binom{n}{k} < \frac{n^k}{k!} \leq \frac{n^k}{e \left(\frac{k}{e}\right)^k} = \frac{1}{e} \cdot \frac{e}{2} \cdot 2^{\frac{k-1}{2} \cdot k} = \frac{1}{2} 2^{\binom{k}{2}} = 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$   
 $k! \geq e \left(\frac{k}{e}\right)^k \Rightarrow \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1$ .

# Ramsey Number ?

Def: For any integer  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_r \geq 2$ , the Ramsey Number  $R(s_1, \dots, s_r)$  is the least integer  $N$  s.t. any  $k$ -edge-coloring of  $K_N$  has a clique  $K_{s_i}$  of color  $i$ .

HW:  $R(s_1, \dots, s_r) < +\infty$ .


Application:

**Schur's Thm:** For any  $k \geq 2$ , there exists  $N := N(k)$  st. for any  $k$ -coloring  $c: [N] \rightarrow [k]$ , we can find  $x, y, z \in [N]$  st.  $c(x) = c(y) = c(z)$  and  $x+y = z$ .

**Proof:** Let  $N := R(\underbrace{3, 3, \dots, 3}_k)$

Define a  $k$ -edge-coloring  $f$  on  $K_N$  by:  $f(ij) := c(|i-j|)$ .

By the definition of Ramsey Number  $R(3, 3, \dots, 3)$ ,  $f$  has a monochromatic triangle,

say  $i < j < l$ ,   $c(j-i) = c(l-i) = c(l-j)$ .

let  $x := j-i$ ,  $y := l-j$ ,  $z := l-i$ .  $\Rightarrow \begin{cases} c(x) = c(y) = c(z) \\ \text{and } x+y = z \end{cases}$  #

Schur used this to prove that the Fermat Last Thm holds in  $\mathbb{Z}_p$  for large prime  $p$ .

**Thm:** For  $\forall$  integer  $m \geq 1$ , there is a prime number  $p(m)$  such that for any prime  $p \geq p(m)$ ,  $x^m + y^m \equiv z^m \pmod{p}$  has a nontrivial solution.

**Proof:** For prime  $p$ , define the multiplicative group  $\mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , there is a  $g \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , st.  $\forall x \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$  can be written as  $x = g^{i+mj}$  for some  $i, j, 0 \leq j < m$ .

Define  $c: \mathbb{Z}_p^* \rightarrow [m]$  by  $c(x) = j$ .

By Schur's Thm,  $\exists N(m)$  st. as long as  $p > N(m)$ ,  $\exists x, y, z \in \mathbb{Z}_p^*$ , satisfying

$$c(x) = c(y) = c(z) \text{ and } x+y = z.$$

Write  $x := g^{i_1+mj_1}$ ,  $y := g^{i_2+mj_2}$ ,  $z := g^{i_3+mj_3}$ .

Then  $x+y = z \Rightarrow g^{i_1+mj_1} + g^{i_2+mj_2} \equiv g^{i_3+mj_3} \pmod{p}$ .

$$\Rightarrow (g^{i_1})^m + (g^{i_2})^m \equiv (g^{i_3})^m \pmod{p}$$

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## The Probability Method in Combinatorics.

• A probability space is  $(\Omega, P_r)$ , where  $P_r$  is a normalized measure (i.e.  $P_r(\Omega)=1$ ).

$$P_r: 2^\Omega \rightarrow [0, 1] : \textcircled{1} P_r(\emptyset)=0; \textcircled{2} P_r(\Omega)=1; \textcircled{3} A, B \text{ disjoint } \subseteq \Omega, P_r(A \cup B) = P_r(A) + P_r(B)$$

In Combinatorics, it's mostly sufficient to work with finite  $\Omega$ .

Any  $A \subseteq \Omega$  is "event",  $P_r(A) = \sum_{\omega \in A} P_r(\{\omega\})$

• A random variable is a function  $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

• Expectation:  $E[X] = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} X(\omega) P_r(\{\omega\}) = \int_a^b a P_r(X=a)$ .

• Two events  $A, B \subseteq \Omega$  are independent, if  $P_r(A \cap B) = P_r(A) \cdot P_r(B)$ .

Two random variable  $X, Y$  are independent, if for  $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

the events  $\{X=a\}, \{Y=b\}$  are independent.

Fact 1:  $E[XY] = E[X]E[Y]$ , if  $X$  &  $Y$  independent.

Fact 2:  $P_r(A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_k) \leq \sum_{i=1}^k P_r(A_i)$  union bound.

Fact 3: For  $\forall$  random variable  $X, Y$ ,  $E[X+Y] = E[X] + E[Y]$  linearity of expectation.

### Union - Bound

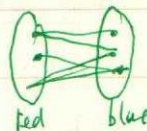
Def: Let  $\mathcal{F}_i$  be a family of subsets of size  $k$ , we say  $\mathcal{F}_i$  is  $2$ -colorable if there exists a function  $f: \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{F}_i} A \rightarrow \{\text{red}, \text{blue}\}$ ,

such that every set  $A \in \mathcal{F}_i$  is not monochromatic (i.e. every  $A$  has at least one element colored blue and one element colored red)

Rmk: where  $k=2$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_i$  can be viewed as a graph  $G$ .

with  $V(G) = \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{F}_i} A$  and  $E(G) = \mathcal{F}_i$ . In this case ( $k=2$ ),

$\mathcal{F}_i$  is  $2$ -colored iff  $G$  is bipartite.



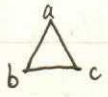
$A = \{\text{红}, \text{蓝}\}$  可根中一染也

**Def:**  $\forall k$ , Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{\text{set } A : |A|=k\}$ , Let  $m(k) := \min |\mathcal{F}|$  over all  $\mathcal{F}$ , which is NOT 2-colorable.

ii).  $m(k) \leq L$ , iff there exists such a family  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $L$   $k$ -sets, which is NOT 2-colorable.

iii).  $m(k) > L$ , iff  $\forall$  family  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $|\mathcal{F}| \leq L$  can be 2-colorable.

**Fact:**  $m(2) \leq 3$ .

eg:   $\rightarrow \mathcal{F} = \left\{ \begin{matrix} \{ab\} \\ \{bc\} \\ \{ac\} \end{matrix} \right\}$  is NOT 2-colorable.

$m(2) > 2$

eg:  $\mathcal{F} = \{\{1,2\}, \{3,4\}\} \checkmark, \{\{1,2\}, \{2,3\}\} \checkmark \dots$

$\Rightarrow m(2) = 3$

**Thm:**  $m(k) \geq 2^{k-1}$ . ( $\Leftrightarrow \forall k$ -family  $\mathcal{F}$  with  $|\mathcal{F}| < 2^{k-1}$  can be 2-colorable.)

**Proof:** To show  $\mathcal{F}$  is 2-colorable, we need to find a function  $f: \bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{F}} A \rightarrow \{\text{blue, red}\}$  s.t.  $(\forall A \in \mathcal{F})$  has a blue element and a red element. "good."

We consider a random 2-coloring  $\varphi$  on  $X$ , that is, each  $x \in X$  is colored blue or red with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ , independent of other elements.

For  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ , Let  $M_A$  be the event that  $A$  is monochromatic.  $\Pr(\text{good}) > 0 \Leftrightarrow \Pr(\text{not good}) < 1$ .

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(M_A) = 2 \times \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^k = 2^{1-k}$$

$$\Pr(\varphi \text{ is "bad"}) = \Pr\left(\bigcup_{A \in \mathcal{F}} M_A\right) \leq \sum_{A \in \mathcal{F}} \Pr(M_A) = |\mathcal{F}| \cdot 2^{1-k} < 2^{k-1} \cdot 2^{1-k} = 1$$

i.e. NOT satisfying  $\Leftrightarrow \exists A$  s.t.  $A$  is monochromatic  $\Leftrightarrow \exists A \in \mathcal{F}$  s.t.  $M_A$  occurs.

$$\Rightarrow \Pr(\varphi \text{ is "good"}) = 1 - \Pr(\varphi \text{ is "bad"}) > 0$$

i.e.  $\varphi$  satisfying  $\Leftrightarrow$

$$\text{Since } \Pr(\varphi \text{ is "good"}) = \frac{\# \text{ good functions}}{\text{all functions: } X \rightarrow \{\text{red, blue}\}} > 0$$

we know  $\#$  "good" functions is positive.  $\#$

We remark on the following two simple but useful ideas in proofs.

- (i). Imagine we need to find some combinatorial object satisfying some property, call them "good" object. We consider a random object. If the probability that the random object is "good" is positive, then there must exist "good" object!
- (ii). To compute the probability of being "good", we after compute the probability of being "bad" and aim to prove it is strictly less than 1.

Classical Probability Space: for  $\forall A \subseteq \Omega$ ,  $Pr(A) = \frac{|A|}{|\Omega|}$  and we say  $Pr$  is uniformly distributed.

e.g. Let  $S_n$  be the set of all permutations of  $[n]$ .

Define  $Pr(A) = \frac{|A|}{|S_n|}$  for any  $A \subseteq S_n$ . We denote this probability space  $(S_n, Pr)$  simply by  $S_n$ .

Def: The random graph  $G(n, p)$   <sup>$0 \leq p \leq 1$</sup>  is a graph on vertex set  $[n]$ , where each of the potential  $\binom{n}{2}$  edges appears with probability  $p$ , independent of other pairs. Let  $\mathcal{G}_n$  be the family of all graphs on  $[n]$ .  $|\mathcal{G}_n| = 2^{\binom{n}{2}}$ .

Let  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , For any fixed  $H \in \mathcal{G}_n$ ,  $Pr(G(n, \frac{1}{2}) = H) = (\frac{1}{2})^{\binom{n}{2}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{G}_n|}$ .

Thus, the random graph  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$  can be viewed as a graph chosen from  $\mathcal{G}_n$  uniformly at random.

In a larger sense, we can view  $G(n, \frac{1}{2})$  as the probability space  $(\mathcal{G}_n, Pr)$ , where  $Pr$  is uniformly distributed.

