## Degree Ramsey and On-Line Degree Ramsey Numbers

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Joint work with

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- $R_{\rho}(G_1, G_2, G_3, \dots, G_s; s)$  not yet much studied.

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Size Ramsey number is also linear in *n* for cycles (Haxell–Kohayakawa–Łuczak [1995]) and bounded-degree trees (Friedman–Pippinger [1987]), but NOT graphs w. maxdegree 3 (Rödl–Szemerédi[2000]).

For a family  $\mathcal{G}$ , let  $R(\mathcal{G}; s) = \min\{n \colon K_n \xrightarrow{s} \mathcal{G}\}.$ 

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**Pf. (Idea)** Let  $k = R(\mathcal{G}; s)$ . Apply the bipartite Ramsey theorem repeatedly to a complete k-partite H with huge parts to get a complete k-partite subgraph H' with parts of size |V(G)| where the edges joining any two parts have the same color.

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The collapsed coloring of  $E(K_k)$  has a monochromatic homomorphic image of G, which expands to a monochromatic G in H'.

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#### **Ex.** $\chi(G) = 3 \Rightarrow 5 \le R_{\chi}(G) \le 6.$

Equality holds in lower bound  $\Leftrightarrow \exists$  hom.  $\phi: G \to C_5$ . **Ex.**  $R_{\chi}(C_5) = 5$ .

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BEL proved it for  $k \le 4$ . Zhu ([1998] for k = 5, [2010] for all k) proved it!

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**Thm.** 
$$R_{\Delta}(K_{1,m};s) = \begin{cases} s(m-1) & m \text{ even} \\ s(m-1)+1 & m \text{ odd} \end{cases}$$

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Improves when *m* is even: When *k* is odd and r > k, there is an *r*-regular graph *H* having no *k*-factor (Bollobás–Saito–Wormald [1985]). With k = m - 1 and r = s(m - 1), *s*-coloring E(H) with no monochromatic  $K_{1,m}$  requires a *k*-factorization.

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Lower bound: When  $\Delta(H) \leq s(m-1) - 1$ , Vizing's Theorem  $\Rightarrow$  *H* is s(m-1)-edge-colorable. Put m - 1 matchings into each color.

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Improves when m is odd. When  $\Delta(H) \leq s(m-1)$ , Petersen's Theorem decomposes s(m-1)-regular supergraph H' into 2-factors. Putting (m-1)/2 in each color avoids degree m in one color at any vertex. Paths

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 $R_{\Delta}(P_n) > 2$ : Alternate along paths & cycles to avoid  $P_4$ .
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s colors on sm edges puts  $\geq m$  in some color class. Since |V(H)| = m, this subgraph has a cycle. Since girth $(H) \geq n$ , this color class contains  $P_n$ .

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Upper Bound: Let *H* be a regular graph with the specified degree and girth at least l + 2. For even *m*, also require *H* to have no (m - 1)-factor (*H* exists by a variation on Bollobás–Saito–Wormald [1985])

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Odd *m*: each color class has at most (m - 1)/2 edges, but *H* has [s(m - 1) + 1]n/2 edges.

Even *m*: no (m-1)-factor  $\Rightarrow$  each color class has less than (m-1)n/2 edges, but |E(H)| = s(m-1)n/2.

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- The bound is sharp for paths and is twice the true value for brooms.
- Surprisingly, the bound is asymptotically sharp for all  $\Delta(G)$ , using double-stars.

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For *b* even and a < b, we need a stronger upper bound for  $S_{b-1,b}$ .

Improved upper bound (*b* even and a < b)



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**Pf.** Vertices are majority red or majority blue or tied. Not all are tied (would be odd regular of odd order).

No  $S_{b-1,b} \Rightarrow$  all nbrs (via red) of maj red are maj blue.

A maj **red** vertex forces a maj blue in each direction; after 5 steps, one set has a maj **red** and a maj blue.

Now its neighboring sets together need b maj blue and b maj red vertices, but they have only 2b - 2 total.

#### Double-Stars, s colors

**Thm.** If  $s \ge 2$ , then  $R_{\Delta}(S_{a,b}; s) \le 2(s-1)(b-1)+1$ . If  $b \ge 2a-1$ , then  $R_{\Delta}(S_{a,b}; s) \le s(b-1)+1$  (=  $R_{\Delta}(K_{1,b}; s)$ ).

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**Pf.** Let *H* be a *d*-regular triangle-free *n*-vertex graph. Given a coloring, let  $d_j(v) = \#$ edges with color *j* at *v*. *v* is *j*-major when  $d_j(v) \ge b$  and *j*-minor when  $d_j(v) < a$ .

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To avoid  $S_{b,b}$ ,  $\exists j$ -minor endpt for each edge of color j. Each vertex is j-major for some j if d > s(b - 1). Hence

$$\frac{nd}{2} = |E(H)| \le \sum_{\nu} \sum_{j \in M(\nu)} d_j(\nu) \le n(s-1)(b-1),$$

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To study  $S_{a,b}$ , vertices not *j*-major or *j*-minor are *j*-medium. With more careful counting, using  $b \ge 2a - 1$ , the upper bound on *d* to avoid  $S_{a,b}$  becomes s(b - 1).

**Thm.**  $R_{\Delta}(S_{b,b},s) > (2-\epsilon)s(b-1)$  for sufficiently large **b**.

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The same idea constructs an *s*-edge-coloring of  $K_{n,n}$  that avoids  $S_{b,b}$ , where  $n = \lfloor 2\frac{s-1}{s+1}s(b-1) \rfloor$ . This gives a lower bound for the "bipartite Ramsey number" of  $S_{b,b}$ .

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**Cor.**  $R_{\Delta}(C_3) = 5$ .

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**Thm.** (Jiang–Milans–West)  $R_{\Delta}(C_{2k}) \le 96$  and  $R_{\Delta}(C_{2k+1}) \le 3458$ .

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**Pf.** Each vertex of X has a majority in some color. Two vertices have majority in the same color, say red. Since |Y| = 3, they have a common neighbor in Y.

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Since the edges have the same Type, in H they yield pasted copies of  $P_4$  in the same color c. This yields a monochromatic  $C_{2k}$ .

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• Reduction to  $R_{\Delta}(F) \le 96$  uses that only 8 of the 9 edges in  $K_{3,3}$  are needed to arrow  $P_4$ .

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# **Odd Cycles**

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# The Big Question

**Ques.** Does there exist a function f such that every graph G satisfies  $R_{\Delta}(G) \le f(\Delta(G))$ ?

The answer is yes for  $\Delta(G) = 2$ , but maybe it is unbounded for  $\Delta(G) = 3$ .

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# And Now For Something Sort Of Completely Different

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Idea: Restrict Builder to a hereditary family  $\mathcal{H}$ . After every move, the graph presented so far lies in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

This defines the on-line Ramsey game  $(G, \mathcal{H})$ . Can Builder playing on  $\mathcal{H}$  force a monochromatic G?

**Def.** For a monotone graph parameter  $\rho$ , the on-line  $\rho$ -Ramsey number  $\mathring{R}_{\rho}(G)$  of G is min{k: Builder wins  $(G, \mathcal{F}_k)$ }, where  $\mathcal{F}_k = \{H : \rho(H) \le k\}$ .

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**Def.** on-line degree Ramsey number  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(G) = \min\{k: \text{ Builder wins } (G, S_k)\}, \text{ where } S_k = \{H: \Delta(H) \le k\}.$ 

**Obs.**  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(G) \leq R_{\Delta}(G)$  for all *G* (always  $\mathring{R}_{\rho}(G) \leq R_{\rho}(G)$ ).

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**Ques.** Is  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(G)$  bounded by a function of  $\Delta(G)$ ? **Thm.**  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(G) \le 6$  if  $\Delta(G) \le 2$ .

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• Lower bound for  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(C_n) \ge 4$  comes from charzn of  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}(G) \le 3$ , which uses greedy linear-forest Painter.

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• Prove upper bounds on  $\mathring{R}_{\Delta}$  for trees and cycles by algorithms for Builder to defeat a consistent Painter .

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Invariant: In  $T_R$ , each vertex other than  $x_R$  either 1) is a leaf in  $T_R$  with no other incident edge, or 2) has k red children and at most k blue incident edges.

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#### Trees

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An active vertex becomes satisfied if it has k children via its own color. dangerous if it has k incident edges of the other color.

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Then Builder regenerates the other tree.



#### **Even Cycles**

Assume Builder plays on  $S_k$  and Painter is consistent. (Weight = bound on total red + blue at a vertex.)

**Lem.** Let  $F_1$ ,  $F_2$  be weighted graphs Builder can force in red, with vertices  $u_1$ ,  $u_2$ . Form F from  $F_1 + F_2$  by adding  $u_1u_2$  and increasing weights on  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  by 2. If q is even, then Builder can force a red F or a blue  $C_q$ .

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**Pf.** Builder forces q/2 copies of  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  and then adds a cycle alternating between the copies of  $u_1$  and  $u_2$ .











Consistent Painter makes the same monochr.  $P_3$  (with weights 2) in any isolated triangle; we may assume it is red. Painter wants to avoid a monochromatic  $C_q$ .



Further extensions of the tree force any even cycle  $C_q$  (just extend one half if  $q \equiv 2 \mod 4$ ), but  $C_6$  and  $C_{10}$  are special.

Consistent Painter makes consistent triangles.

Case 1: monochromatic



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# Special Case: C<sub>6</sub> (C<sub>10</sub> is similar)

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Case 2: not monochromatic



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**Lem.** Against consistent Painter , if Builder can force red *F* or monochr.  $C_q$  (*q* odd), then Builder can force red F+uv or monochr.  $C_a$ , with wt on *u* and *v* up by 2.

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Leaf distances q - 1 (opposite halves or to middle). Cycle through the leaves is all blue or some red.

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 $\Delta(G) = 2$ ; we may assume each component is a cycle.

If Builder can't force G against a consistent Painter, then  $\exists r$  and b where Builder can't force red  $C_r$  or blue  $C_b$ . One Case: both are odd ( $b \leq r$  by symmetry).

Builder forces red 2-weighted  $P_2$  by playing a *b*-cycle.

By earlier lemmas, Builder can force red 4-weighted  $P_r$ . Similarly, Builder can force the red 6-weighted tree.



Finally, Builder plays a *b*-cycle on the leaves.