

# FRÄISSÉ'S CONJECTURE AND BIG RAMSEY DEGREES OF STRUCTURES ADMITTING FINITE MONOMORPHIC DECOMPOSITIONS

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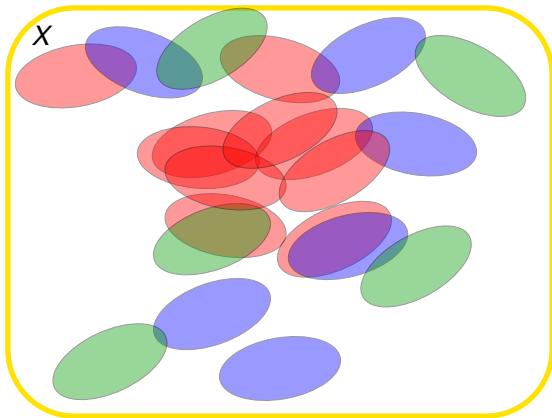
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# COLORING THE INFINITE

## THEOREM 1 (RAMSEY 1930)

Let  $X$  be a countably infinite set. For any finite coloring of  $[X]^n$ , there exists an infinite subset  $M \subseteq X$  such that  $[M]^n$  is monochromatic.

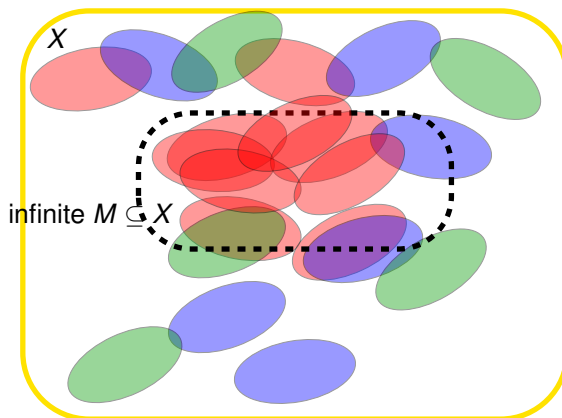


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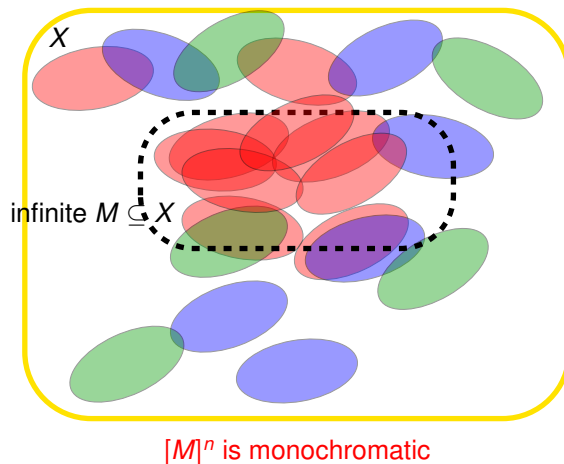


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## THEOREM 2 (RAMSEY 1930)

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If we impose an order type of  $\omega$  on  $X$ , this theorem becomes a **structural Ramsey theorem** about infinite linear orders.



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## THEOREM 3 (RAMSEY 1930)

Let  $\omega$  be a countably infinite set. For any finite coloring of  $[\omega]^n$ , there exists an infinite subset  $L \subset \omega$ ,  $L \cong \omega$ , such that  $[L]^n$  is monochromatic.

If we impose an order type of  $\omega$  on  $X$ , this theorem becomes a **structural Ramsey theorem** about infinite linear orders.

We could, of course, say we're coloring all  $n$ -element chains instead of  $[L]^n$ .



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Let  $A$  be a finite, and  $\mathfrak{B}$  an infinite  $\mathcal{L}$ -structure over some language  $\mathcal{L}$ . Denote by  $\binom{X}{Y}$  the set of substructures of  $X$  isomorphic to  $Y$  and by  $\text{Emb}(Y, X)$  the set of embeddings from  $Y$  to  $X$ .

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For every function ( $k$ -coloring)  $\chi : \binom{\mathfrak{B}}{A} \longrightarrow [k]$ , we seek to find  $B \subset \mathfrak{B}$ ,  $B \cong \mathfrak{B}$  such that  $|\chi[\binom{B}{A}]| = 1$

$\Longleftrightarrow$  (more or less)

For every  $\chi : \text{Emb}(A, \mathfrak{B}) \longrightarrow [k]$ , we seek to find  $f \in \text{Emb}(\mathfrak{B}, \mathfrak{B})$  such that  $|\chi[f \circ \text{Emb}(A, \mathfrak{B})]| = 1$ .

Note that the latter version lets us switch completely to category theory.  
([Mašulović ~2015],[Solecki 2022] and many more)

# STRUCTURES- RARELY MONOCHROMATIC

## THEOREM 4 (GALVIN)

For every coloring of 2-element chains in  $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$  into finitely many colors, there is a  $S \subset \mathbb{Q}, S \cong \mathbb{Q}$  such that  $\chi\left[\binom{S}{[2]}\right] \leq 2$ . This bound is tight!

- Expectation: monochromatic copy
- Reality: **oligochromatic** copy
- oligochromatic- not depending on the initial number of colors.

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## DEFINITION 5 (KECHRIS–PESTOV–TODORCEVIC)

Let  $S$  be a structure and let  $A$  be a finite substructure of  $S$ .

- The big Ramsey degree of  $A$  in  $S$  is the least  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every finite coloring

$$\chi : \text{Emb}(A, S) \rightarrow [k],$$

there exists an isomorphic copy  $C \leq S$  satisfying

$$|\chi(\text{Emb}(A, C))| \leq t.$$

- We write  $T(A, S) = t$ , or  $T(A, S) = \infty$  if no such  $t$  exists.

# KNOWN RESULTS ON ORDERS

- **Ordinals**

- $T(1, \omega^\alpha) = 1$  for every ordinal  $\alpha$
- $T(1, \alpha) < \infty$  for every infinite ordinal  $\alpha$

[Fraïssé]

[Fraïssé]

- **Scattered linear orders**

- $T(1, A) = 1$  for every additively indecomposable  $A$
- $T(1, S) < \infty$  for every scattered  $S$

[Laver]

[Laver]

- **Non-scattered linear orders**

- $\mathbb{Q} \not\rightarrow (\mathbb{Q})_2^2$
- $T(n, \mathbb{Q}) < \infty$  for every  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

[Galvin]

[Galvin, Laver, Devlin]

# KNOWN RESULTS ON ORDERS

- **Countable linear orders**

- $\alpha$  ... a countable ordinal
- $S$  ... a countable linear order

- **Big Ramsey spectrum**

$$\text{Spec}(S) = (T(1, S), T(2, S), T(3, S), \dots)$$

- **Classification for all countable linear orders**

- **Theorem** [Mašulović, Šobot]  $\text{Spec}(\alpha)$  is finite if and only if  $\alpha < \omega^\omega$ .
- **Theorem** [Galvin, Laver, Devlin] For every non-scattered  $S$ ,  $\text{Spec}(S)$  is finite.
- **Theorem** [Da Silva Barbosa, Mašulović, Nenadov] For scattered  $S$ ,  $\text{Spec}(S)$  is finite if and only if  $\text{rk}_{\text{Hausd}}(S) < \infty$ .

- **We can even calculate spectra**

- **Theorem**[Boyland, Gasarch, Hurtig, Rust] Formula for Big Ramsey degrees of all countable ordinals.

- **Partial orders**

- **Theorem**[Balko, Chodounský, Dobrinen, Hubička, Konečný, Vena, Zucker] Found spectrum for the Random poset
- **Theorem**[Mašulović, T] Generic 2-dimensional partial order  $\mathbb{P}_2$  has finite spectrum.

# MONOMORPHIC STRUCTURES

## DEFINITION 6 (FRAÏSSÉ)

A structure  $S$  is monomorphic if all finite substructures of  $S$  of the same size are isomorphic.

## Examples

- Linear orders
- Hausdorff topological spaces

[Raghavan, Todorčević]

## Characterization

## THEOREM 7 (FRAÏSSÉ; POUZET)

A countable relational structure  $\mathcal{M} = (M, \dots)$  is monomorphic if and only if it is quantifier-free definable in some linear order  $(M, <)$ .

In this case, we say that the linear order  $(M, <)$  chains  $\mathcal{M}$ .

# MONOMORPHIC STRUCTURES AND BIG RAMSEY SPECTRA

- **Setup**

- $\mathcal{M}$  ... a countable monomorphic structure
- $T(n, \mathcal{M})$  ... the big Ramsey degree of the unique  $n$ -element substructure of  $\mathcal{M}$

- **Big Ramsey spectrum**

$$\text{Spec}(\mathcal{M}) = (T(1, \mathcal{M}), T(2, \mathcal{M}), T(3, \mathcal{M}), \dots)$$

## THEOREM 8 (MAŠULOVIĆ, T)

$\text{Spec}(\mathcal{M})$  is finite if and only if  $\text{Spec}(\mathcal{M}, \prec)$  is finite for some (and hence for every) **minimal** linear order  $\prec$  that chains  $\mathcal{M}$ .



## THEOREM 9 (FRAÏSSÉ'S CONJECTURE; LAVER)

The class of all countable linear orders is a well-quasi-order under embeddability.



# PROFILE= T.P.T.O.E.N.I.S.O.S.*n*

- Profile of a monomorphic structure:  $(1, 1, 1, 1, \dots)$ .
- Can we extend our results for slowly-growing structures?
- Not so painful for ordered structures!
- In this case, we can classify spectra for all structures of polynomial growth (with finite signature).

# PROFILE= T.P.T.O.E.N.I.S.O.S. $n$

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## THEOREM 10 (OUDRAR,POUZET)

Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a hereditary class of finite ordered relational structures with a finite **re-stricted** signature  $\mu$ .

Then exactly one of the following holds:

- There exists an integer  $k$  such that every member of  $\mathcal{C}$  admits an **interval decomposition** into at most  $k + 1$  blocks. In this case,  $\mathcal{C}$  is a finite union of ages of ordered relational structures, each having an interval decomposition into at most  $k + 1$  blocks, and the profile of  $\mathcal{C}$  is polynomial.
- Otherwise, the profile of  $\mathcal{C}$  grows exponentially.

# FMD- KEEPING A LOW PROFILE

- $\mathcal{S} = (S, \dots)$  ... a relational structure
- $\{E_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$  ... a partition of  $S$

## DEFINITION 11 (POUZET, THIÉRY)

The partition  $\{E_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$  is a **monomorphic decomposition** of  $\mathcal{S}$  if for all finite substructures  $A, B \leq \mathcal{S}$  of the same size,

$$A \cong B \iff |A \cap E_\alpha| = |B \cap E_\alpha| \text{ for all } \alpha < \kappa.$$

## THEOREM 12 (POUZET, THIÉRY)

Every relational structure admits a coarsest monomorphic decomposition, called the **minimal monomorphic decomposition**.

# FMD- KEEPING A LOW (RAMSEY)

- **Setup**

- $\mathcal{S} = (S, \dots)$  ... a countable relational structure
- $\{E_1, \dots, E_m\}$  ... a finite monomorphic decomposition of  $\mathcal{S}$  (polynomial growth)
- $\mathcal{S}[E]$  ... the substructure of  $\mathcal{S}$  induced by  $E \subseteq S$  (obviously monomorphic)

- **Main result (though not a surprising one)**

**THEOREM 13 (MAŠULOVIĆ, T)**

$\mathcal{S}$  has finite big Ramsey degrees if and only if each  $\mathcal{S}[E_i]$  does, for  $1 \leq i \leq m$ .



- **Underlying principle (a surprising result and technique)**

*A product Ramsey statement for linear orders*

# A PRODUCT RAMSEY THEOREM FOR LINEAR ORDERS

- $L_1, \dots, L_m$  ... countable linear orders with finite big Ramsey spectra

## THEOREM 14 (MAŠULOVIĆ, T)

For every choice of  $n_1, \dots, n_m \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists  $t \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for every finite coloring

$$\chi : \text{Emb}(n_1, L_1) \times \dots \times \text{Emb}(n_m, L_m) \rightarrow \{1, \dots, k\},$$

there exist suborders  $C_i \leq L_i$  with  $C_i \cong L_i$  for  $1 \leq i \leq m$  such that

$$|\chi(\text{Emb}(n_1, C_1) \times \dots \times \text{Emb}(n_m, C_m))| \leq t.$$

$$T((n_1, \dots, n_m), (L_1, \dots, L_m)) < \infty.$$

# AFETRMATH

As a nice consequence of the fact that  $T((n, m), (\mathbb{Q}, \mathbb{Q})) < \infty$ , we prove that Cameron's generic permutation has finite spectrum, and from there:

## THEOREM 15 (MAŠULOVIĆ, T)

Generic permutation  $(\mathbb{Q}, <, \sqsubset)$  has finite big Ramsey degrees.

## THEOREM 16 (MAŠULOVIĆ, T)

The **generic 2-dimensional poset** is quantifier-free definable in the generic permutation:

$$x \preceq y \text{ iff } x = y \text{ or } (x < y \text{ and } x \sqsubset y).$$

$\mathbb{P}_2$  is a weak Fräissé limit of all posets embeddable into a product of two chains.

Weak Fräissé limits are precisely ...

# HOW IT'S DONE

- Many proofs in Ramsey theory use various color transfer principles, to "steal" Ramsey properties from other structures.
- It's difficult(or in some cases impossible) to prove finite big Ramsey degrees on product categories just by color transfer from the structures themselves
- It turns out to be a problem of book-keeping!
- **Strategy**
  - Find a strong enough categorical notion of color transfer(a lot of reading involved)
  - Prove it respects products
  - Find a Big Ramsey structure/category whose products reduce to itself.
  - Hope it will be strictly stronger than all nice chains.
- The category in question is  $\mathbb{Q}$  with partial set-functions and  $(\mathbb{Q}, <)$  self-embeddings.
- particularly tough are scattered chains, where we mimic the proof of da Silva Barbosa, Mašulović, Nenadov

# COLOR-STEALING MAP

## DEFINITION 17

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be locally small categories. For  $A, X \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{A})$  and  $B, Y \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{B})$ , we write

$$(A, X)_{\mathcal{A}} \prec (B, Y)_{\mathcal{B}}$$

to denote that there exist:

- a subset  $M \subseteq \text{hom}(B, Y)$ , and
- a set-function  $\phi : M \rightarrow \text{hom}(A, X)$

such that for every  $h \in \text{hom}(Y, Y)$ , there exists  $g \in \text{hom}(X, X)$  satisfying

$$g \circ \text{hom}(A, X) \subseteq \phi(M \cap (h \circ \text{hom}(B, Y))).$$