# BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# Rado's Thm

# **Exposition by William Gasarch**

April 29, 2025

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#### Thm $(\forall c)(\exists S = S(c))$ st $\forall$ COL: $[S] \rightarrow [c] \exists x, y, z$ st

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 $\triangleright$  COL $(x) =$ COL $(y) =$ COL $(z)$   
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We proved using Ramsey's Thm.



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What about other equations?

**Def** Let  $E(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$  be an equation (e.g., x + y = z).



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A **distinct monochromatic solution (d-mono sol)** is a mono sol where all of the elements are different.

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(We can modify the proof to get a d-mono sol.)

**Def** Let  $E(x_1, ..., x_n)$  be an equation (e.g., x + y = z). *E* is **regular** if the following is true:

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We can restate Schur's Thm Thm x + y = z is regular. (Can also show d-regular.)

Thm 2w + 3x = 5y is regular.



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This is a stupid thm.



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Take x = y = z = 1. Or any x = y = z.

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$$2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd)$$

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2w + 3x = 5y 2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd)2a + 2Wd + 3a + 3Xd = 5a + 5Y

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2w + 3x = 5y 2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd)2a + 2Wd + 3a + 3Xd = 5a + 5Y WOW all of the a's Drop out!

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2w + 3x = 5y



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Set  $w = a + Wd$ ,  $x = a + Xd$ ,  $y = a + Yd$  and the a's dropped out.

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2w + 3x = 5ySet w = a + Wd, x = a + Xd, y = a + Yd and the a's dropped out. Then all the d's dropped out so we go equation in just W, X, Y. What is it about

$$2w + 3x = 5y$$

that made all of the a's drop out? Discuss.

The key to 2w + 3x = 5y is that 2 + 3 = 5.

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**Thm** Let  $a_1, \ldots, a_m \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $b_1, \ldots, b_n \in \mathbb{N}$  be st  $\sum_{i=1}^m a_i = \sum_{i=1}^n b_i$ . Then

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(One exception:  $x = y$ .)

We won't prove this but you have seen most of the ideas needed to prove it.

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# **Other Equations**

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Thm 2w + 3x = 5y + z is d-regular.

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# **Extended VDW Thm**

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**VDW's Thm**  $(\forall k, c)(\exists W = W(k, c) \text{ st } \forall \text{ COL}: [W] \rightarrow [c] \exists a, d \text{ st}$  $\text{COL}(a) = \cdots = \text{COL}(a + (k - 1))d$ 

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What about *d* itself? Can it be the same colors as a, a + d, ..., a + (k - 1)d?

Extended VDW's Thm **EVDW Thm**  $(\forall k, c)(\exists E = E(k, c) \text{ st } \forall \text{ COL} : [E] \rightarrow [c] \exists a, d \text{ st}$ 

$$\operatorname{COL}(a) = \cdots = \operatorname{COL}(a + (k - 1)d) = \operatorname{COL}(d)$$

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Pf. Ind on c.

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COL: [W(kX,c)] \rightarrow [c].
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 $D, 2D, \ldots, (k-1)XD$  use [c-1].



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### Proof of Extended VDW Thm (cont)

 $D, 2D, \ldots, (k-1)XD$  use [c-1]. Set X = E(k, c - 1). This is where we use Ind. Hyp.  $D, 2D, \ldots, E(k, c-1)D$  only use [c-1]. Define COL'(i) = COL(iD), a (c-1)-coloring, so there exists a'. d'  $a', a' + d', \dots, a' + (k - 1)d', d'$  same COL' color.  $a'D, (a'+d')D, \ldots, (a'+(k-1)d')D, d'D$  same COL color.  $a'D, a'D + d'D, \ldots, a'D + (k-1)d'D, d'D$  same COL color. a = a'D, d = d'D

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### Proof of Extended VDW Thm (cont)

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Thm 2w + 3x = 5y + z is regular.



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$$2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd) + (Zd)$$

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2w + 3x = 5y + z 2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd) + (Zd) 2a + 2Wd + 3a + 3Xd = 5a + 5Yd + Zd WOW The a's drop out.2Wd + 3Xd = 5Yd + Zd WOW The d's drop out.

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2w + 3x = 5y + z2(a + Wd) + 3(a + Xd) = 5(a + Yd) + (Zd)2a + 2Wd + 3a + 3Xd = 5a + 5Yd + Zd WOW The a's drop out. 2Wd + 3Xd = 5Yd + Zd WOW The d's drop out. 2W + 3X = 5Y + ZWe'll take W = 2, X = 4, Y = 3, Z = 1So take w = a + 2d x = a + 4d y = a + 3d z = dSo take EVDW with k = 5. Done

### Rado's Thm (Half of it)

**Thm** Let  $a_1, \ldots, a_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  be st some subset of the  $a_i$ 's sums to 0. Then

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We won't prove. You have seen most of the ideas needed to prove it.

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# An Equation Where Rado Fails

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### We define $\mathrm{COL}\colon\mathbb{N}{\rightarrow}[4]$ st



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x + 2y = 4z has no mono solution.

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We define  $\mathrm{COL}\colon\mathbb{N}{\rightarrow}[4]$  st

x + 2y = 4z has no mono solution.

 $COL(5^a b) = b \mod 5$ . Note that  $b \neq 0$ .

We define  $\operatorname{COL}: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [4]$  st

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 $COL(5^ab) = b \mod 5$ . Note that  $b \neq 0$ . If  $a_1, a_2, a_3$  is a mono solution, say color is b.

We define  $\operatorname{COL}: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow [4]$  st

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$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$ 

 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$ 

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$   
 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_1 < e_2, e_3$ .

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$   
 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_1 < e_2, e_3$ .  
Recall  $b \neq 0$ .

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 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_1 < e_2, e_3$ .  
Recall  $b \neq 0$ .

$$a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$$

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$   
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Recall  $b \neq 0$ .

$$a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$$

$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3}b_3$$

Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2 - e_1} b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3 - e_1} b_3$$

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2 - e_1} b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3 - e_1} b_3$$

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Take this mod 5 to get:

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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Recall  $b \neq 0$ .

$$a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$$

$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3}b_3$$

Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2 - e_1} b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3 - e_1} b_3$$

Take this mod 5 to get:

$$b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$
 contradiction

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Divide by  $5^{e_2}$  to get:

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  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$   
 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3$ . Recall  $b \neq 0$ .  
 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3}b_3$$

Divide by  $5^{e_2}$  to get:

$$5^{e_1-e_2}b_1 + 2 \times b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3-e_2}b_3$$

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Take this mod 5 to get:

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3$ . Recall  $b \neq 0$ .  
 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

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Divide by  $5^{e_2}$  to get:

$$5^{e_1-e_2}b_1 + 2 \times b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3-e_2}b_3$$

Take this mod 5 to get:

$$2b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$$
 contradiction

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 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

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Divide by  $5^{e_2}$  to get:

$$5^{e_1-e_2}b_1+2 \times b_2=4 \times 5^{e_3-e_2}b_3$$

Take this mod 5 to get:

 $2b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  contradiction Key 5 is prime:  $2b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  implies  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ .

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$   
 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3$ . Recall  $b \neq 0$ .  
 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

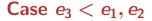
$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_2}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3}b_3$$

Divide by  $5^{e_2}$  to get:

$$5^{e_1-e_2}b_1 + 2 \times b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3-e_2}b_3$$

Take this mod 5 to get:

 $2b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  contradiction **Key** 5 is prime:  $2b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  implies  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ . Contradiction 



Similar to  $e_2 < e_1, 3_3$ .



$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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 $a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$   $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$  $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3.$ 

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 $5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_1}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3}b_3$ 

$$b_1 + 2b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3 - e_1} b_3$$

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_3 - e_1} b_3$$

Take this mod 5 to get:

$$b+2b\equiv 0\pmod{5}$$

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 $3b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ 

$$a_1 \equiv 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 \equiv 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 \equiv 5^{e_3}b_3$   
 $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3$ . Recall  $b \neq 0$ .  
 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

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Take this mod 5 to get:

$$b+2b\equiv 0\pmod{5}$$

 $3b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  $3b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  implies  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$ . Contradiction,  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  Case  $e_1 = e_3 < e_2$  and  $e_2 = e_3 < e_1$ 

Similar to  $e_1 = e_2 < e_3$ .



# $\textbf{Case} \ e_1 = e_2 = e_3$

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
  $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$ 

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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 $a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$   $a_2 = 5^{e_2}b_2$   $a_3 = 5^{e_3}b_3$  $b_1 \equiv b_2 \equiv b_3 \equiv b \pmod{5}$  and  $e_2 < e_1, e_3$ . Recall  $b \neq 0$ .

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 $a_1 + 2a_2 = 4a_3$ 

$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_1}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_1}b_3$$

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$$a_1+2a_2=4a_3$$

$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_1}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_1}b_3$$

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$a_1 = 5^{e_1}b_1$$
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$$5^{e_1}b_1 + 2 \times 5^{e_1}b_2 = 4 \times 5^{e_1}b_3$$

Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2b_2 = 4b_3$$

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Divide by  $5^{e_1}$  to get:

$$b_1 + 2b_2 = 4b_3$$

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Take this mod 5 to get  $3b \equiv 4b$  so  $b \equiv 0 \pmod{5}$  Contradiction.

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## Rado's Thm (Other Half of it)

**Thm** Let  $a_1, \ldots, a_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  be st no subset of the  $a_i$ 's sums to 0.  $a_1x_1 + \cdots + a_kx_k = 0$  is not regular.

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(The *c*-coloring that shows non-regularity uses c= the first prime bigger then any sum of the coefficients.)

**Research Question** 

- For x + 2y = 4z what about 4-coloring? 3-coloring?
   2-coloring?
- More generally one can take an equation where no sum of the coefficients is 0 and look at colorings with a small number of colors.

#### **Full Rado**

**Full Rado Thm** A linear equation  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i = 0$  is regular iff some subset of the coefficient sum to 0.

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(For most equations with the coefficients sum to 0 you actually get d-regular.)

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#### **Research Questions**

(Some is known about some of these.) Prove or disprove that the equations below are regular.

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i x_i = A$$
 for some  $A$ .

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2. Higher degree equations (seems hard).

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- For all c there exists N = N(c) st for any COL: [N]→[c] there is a mono solution to 16x<sup>2</sup> + 9y<sup>2</sup> = z<sup>2</sup>.
   (This equation has certain properties that make it work, so

there is really a more general thm here.) http:

//fourier.math.uoc.gr/~ergodic/Slides/Host.pdf

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3) (Might be Hard) Obtain a human-readable proof with perhaps a much bigger N, but which can be generalized to c = 3 and beyond.

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The following are known:

$$S(2) = 4$$
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The values of S(3) and S(4) were found in 1965 with the aid of a computer; however, given when it was done, they could not have used that much time or space.

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The SAT Solver is described here:

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1711.08076