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# Euclidean Ramsey Theory: Area

#### **Exposition by William Gasarch**

May 1, 2025

**Def** Assume there is a coloring of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . A **Mono Triangle** is a triangle with all three vertices the same color.

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**Def** Assume there is a coloring of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . A **Mono Triangle** is a triangle with all three vertices the same color.

We will prove the following: **Thm**  $\forall$  finite colorings of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\exists$  a mono triangle with area 1.

## The Two Color Case

**Thm** For all COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  there is a mono triangle with area 1.

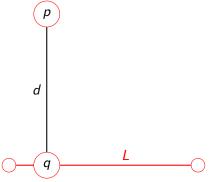
**Thm** For all COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [2]$  there is a mono triangle with area 1. **Case 1:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, and a **R** point *p* not on *L*.

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**Thm** For all COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [2]$  there is a mono triangle with area 1. **Case 1:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, and a **R** point *p* not on *L*. Let *q* be point on *L* closest to *p*. d = d(p, q):

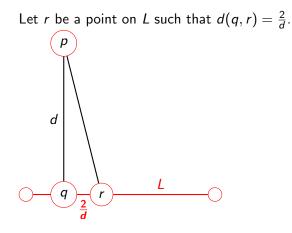
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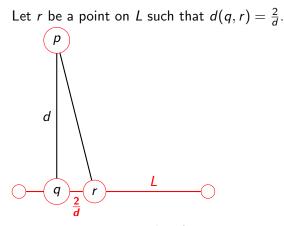


Let r be a point on L such that  $d(q, r) = \frac{2}{d}$ .



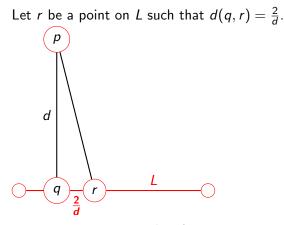


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Area of triangle pqr is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{d} \times d = 1$ .

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Area of triangle pqr is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{d} \times d = 1$ . Case 1 DONE.

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#### The following cases are either trivial or similar to Case 1.

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The following cases are either trivial or similar to Case 1. Case 2:  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, but every *p* not on *L* is **B**.

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The following cases are either trivial or similar to Case 1. Case 2:  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, but every *p* not on *L* is **B**.

**Case 3:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **B**, and a **B** point *p* not on *L*.

The following cases are either trivial or similar to Case 1. **Case 2:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, but every *p* not on *L* is **B**. **Case 3:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **B**, and a **B** point *p* not on *L*. **Case 4:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **B**, but every *p* not on *L* is **R**. The following cases are either trivial or similar to Case 1. **Case 2:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **R**, but every *p* not on *L* is **B**. **Case 3:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **B**, and a **B** point *p* not on *L*. **Case 4:**  $\exists$  a horiz. line *L* which is all **B**, but every *p* not on *L* is **R**. So whats left? See next slide.

#### Case 5: Every Horiz Line has Both Colors

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#### Case 5: Every Horiz Line has Both Colors

**Case 5:** Every horiz. line has both colors. We call this **mixed**. We continue on next slide.

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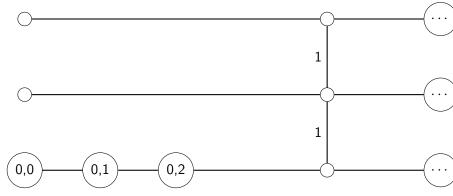
#### **Three Key Points**

We focus on (0,0), (0,1), (0,2) and the infinite horiz. lines that are 1 and 2 above x-axis.

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#### **Three Key Points**

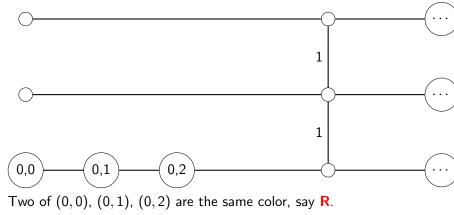
We focus on (0,0), (0,1), (0,2) and the infinite horiz. lines that are 1 and 2 above x-axis.



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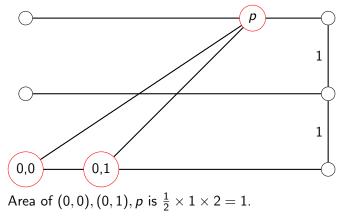
## Case 5.1: (0,0) and (0,1) are R

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### Case 5.2: (0,0) and (0,2) are R

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## The Three Color Case

**Thm** For all COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [3]$  there is a mono triangle with area 1.

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Thm For all COL:  $\mathbb{R}^2 \to [3]$  there is a mono triangle with area 1. We use the colors R, B, G. Thoughts

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#### Thoughts

1. The key to the 2-color case was that we had horiz. lines that all used **R** and **B**. We will try to get a set of horiz lines that all use **the same** colors.

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2. Another key is that the horiz. lines were equally spaced.

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- 2. Another key is that the horiz. lines were equally spaced.
- 3. So we need horiz. lines that all use the same set of colors and are equally spaced.

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- So we need horiz. lines that all use the same set of colors and are equally spaced. What does this make you think of? Answer on next slide.

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#### Let W = W(k, c) where we will pick k and c later.

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Let W = W(k, c) where we will pick k and c later.

Define

 $\text{COL}': [W(k, c)] \rightarrow \{\{R\}, \{B\}, \{G\}, \{R, B\}, \{R, G\}, \{B, G\}, \{R, B, G\}\}\$ as follows:

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Let W = W(k, c) where we will pick k and c later.

Define

 $\operatorname{COL}' \colon [W(k,c)] \to \{\{\mathsf{R}\}, \{\mathsf{B}\}, \{\mathsf{G}\}, \{\mathsf{R},\mathsf{B}\}, \{\mathsf{R},\mathsf{G}\}, \{\mathsf{B},\mathsf{G}\}, \{\mathsf{R},\mathsf{B},\mathsf{G}\}\}\}$ 

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as follows: COL'(i) = the set of colors used by COL on the line y = i.

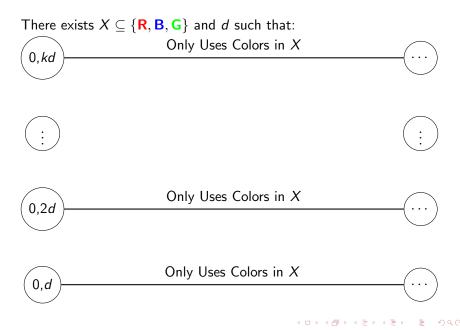
## What Happens

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There exists  $X \subseteq \{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{G}\}$  and d such that:



## What Happens



# Case 1: |X| = 1. Assume R

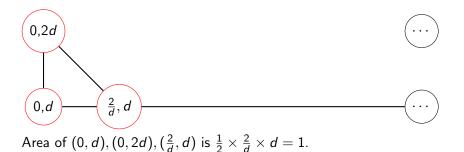
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Case 2: |X| = 2. Assume  $X = \{R, B\}$ 

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Focus on  $(0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d)$ .

Case 2: |X| = 2. Assume  $X = \{R, B\}$ 

Focus on  $(0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d)$ . Two of them are the same color. Assume **R**.

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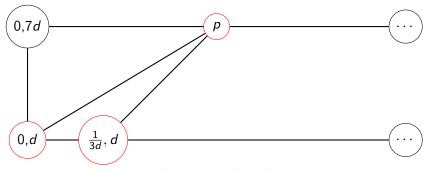
Case 2.1: |X| = 2. COL $(0, d) = COL(\frac{1}{3d}, d) = R$ 

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Key Some point p on 6d-horiz. line is **R**.

Case 2.1: |X| = 2. COL $(0, d) = COL(\frac{1}{3d}, d) = R$ 

Key Some point p on 6d-horiz. line is **R**.



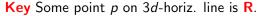
Area of triangle  $((0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), p)$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{3d} \times 6d = 1$ .

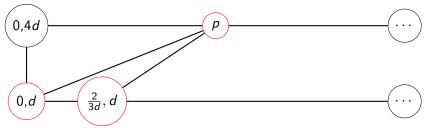
Case 2.2: |X| = 2. COL $(0, d) = COL(\frac{2}{3d}) = R$ 

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Key Some point p on 3d-horiz. line is **R**.

Case 2.2: |X| = 2.  $COL(0, d) = COL(\frac{2}{3d}) = R$ 





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Area of triangle  $((0, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d), p)$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{2}{3d} \times 3d = 1$ .

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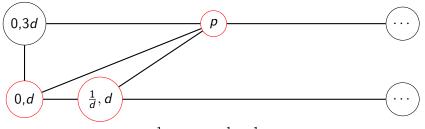
## Focus on $(0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d), (\frac{1}{d}, d).$

Focus on  $(0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d), (\frac{1}{d}, d).$ 

Key Two of  $(0, d), (\frac{1}{3d}, d), (\frac{2}{3d}, d), (\frac{1}{d}, d)$  are same color.

Focus on (0, d),  $(\frac{1}{3d}, d)$ ,  $(\frac{2}{3d}, d)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{d}, d)$ . Key Two of (0, d),  $(\frac{1}{3d}, d)$ ,  $(\frac{2}{3d}, d)$ ,  $(\frac{1}{d}, d)$  are same color. Old News If  $\frac{1}{3d}$  apart or  $\frac{2}{3d}$  apart then similar to Case 2.

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Area of triangle  $((0, d), (\frac{1}{d}, d), p)$  is  $\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{1}{d} \times 2d = 1$ .

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#### Fill in the Parameters

We used W = W(k, c).



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1. The colors are nonempty subsets of  $\{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{G}\}$  so  $c = 2^3 - 1 = 7$ .

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We used W = W(k, c).

1. The colors are nonempty subsets of  $\{\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{B}, \mathbf{G}\}$  so  $c = 2^3 - 1 = 7$ .

- 2. We need 7*d*, so AP of length 7. k = 7.
- 3. Upshot Used W(7,7).

#### Generalize

#### **Thm** $(\forall c)(\forall COL : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow [c]) \exists$ mono triangle with area 1.

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#### Generalize

### **Thm** $(\forall c)(\forall COL : \mathbb{R}^2 \to [c]) \exists$ mono triangle with area 1. This is a HW problem.

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Key is to find the right parameters for VDW.