### The Complexity of Grid Coloring

Daniel Apon—NIST William Gasarch—U of MD Kevin Lawler—Permanent

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- 1.  $G_{n,m}$  is *c*-colorable if there is a *c*-coloring of  $G_{n,m}$  such that no rectangle has all four corners the same color.
- 2.  $\chi(G_{n,m})$  is the least c such that  $G_{n,m}$  is c-colorable.

#### **Examples**

#### A FAILED 2-Coloring of $G_{4,4}$

- R B B R
- B R R B
- B B R R
- R R R B

#### A 2-Coloring of $G_{4,4}$

- R B B R
- BRRB
- B B R R
- R B R B

# Example: a 3-Coloring of G(10,10)

Example: A 3-Coloring of  $G_{10,10}$ 

R	R	R	R	В	В	G	G	В	G
R	В	В	G	R	R	R	G	G	В
G	R	В	G	R	В	В	R	R	G
G	В	R	В	В	R	G	R	G	R
R	В	G	G	G	В	G	В	R	R
G	R	В	В	G	G	R	В	В	R
В	G	R	В	G	В	R	G	R	В
В	В	G	R	R	G	В	G	В	R
G	G	G	R	В	R	В	В	R	В
В	G	В	R	В	G	R	R	G	G

It is known that **cannot** 2-color  $G_{10,10}$ . Hence  $\chi(G_{10,10}) = 3$ .

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- 2. We have a proof which shows  $|OBS_c| \leq 2c^2$ .
- 3. If  $OBS_c$  is known then the set of c-colorable grids is completely characterized.

#### **OBS-2 and OBS-3 Known**

We showed

$$\textit{OBS}_2 = \ \{\textit{G}_{3,7}, \textit{G}_{5,5}, \textit{G}_{7,3}\}$$

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\begin{array}{ll} \textit{OBS}_2 = & \{\textit{G}_{3,7}, \textit{G}_{5,5}, \textit{G}_{7,3}\} \\ \textit{OBS}_3 = & \{\textit{G}_{4,19}, \textit{G}_{5,16}, \textit{G}_{7,13}, \textit{G}_{10,11}, \textit{G}_{11,10}, \textit{G}_{13,7}, \textit{G}_{16,5}, \textit{G}_{19,4}\} \end{array}
```

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2-colorability table. C for Colorable, U for Uncolorability.

	2	3	4	5	6	7
2	С	С	С	С	С	С
3	C	C	C	C	C	U
4	C	C	C	C	C	U
5	C	C	C	U	U	U
6	C	C	C	U	U	U
7	C C C C C C	U	U	U	U	U

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- 4. Brian Hayes, Scientific American Math Editor, popularized the challenge.

1. Lots of people worked on it.

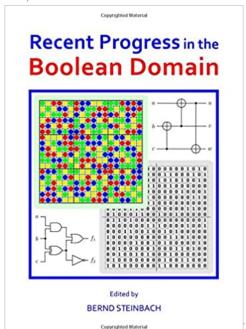
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- 2. For a while, no progress.
- In 2012 Bernd Steinbach and Christian Posthoff [SP]. Clever SAT-solver designed for this purpose. Did not generalize.
- 4. They and others also found colorings that lead to  ${\rm OBS_4} = \{$

```
G_{5,41},\,G_{6,31},\,G_{7,29},\,G_{9,25},\,G_{18,23},\,G_{11,22},\,G_{13,21},\,G_{17,19},\\G_{41,5},\,G_{31,6},\,G_{29,7},\,G_{25,9},\,G_{23,18},\,G_{22,11},\,G_{21,13},\,G_{19,17}
```

### Coloring of $G_{18,18}$ on Book Cover!



We view this two ways:

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#### Part I of Talk—NP Completeness of GCE

# THERE IS AN NP-COMPLETE PROBLEM LURKING!

# **Grid Coloring Hard!-NP stuff**

1. Let  $c, N, M \in \mathbb{N}$ . A partial mapping  $\chi$  of  $N \times M$  to  $\{1, \ldots, c\}$  is a *extendable to a c-coloring* if there is an extension of  $\chi$  to a total mapping which is a c-coloring of  $N \times M$ .

## **Grid Coloring Hard!-NP stuff**

1. Let  $c, N, M \in \mathbb{N}$ . A partial mapping  $\chi$  of  $N \times M$  to  $\{1, \ldots, c\}$  is a *extendable to a c-coloring* if there is an extension of  $\chi$  to a total mapping which is a *c*-coloring of  $N \times M$ .

2.

$$GCE = \{(N, M, c, \chi) \mid \chi \text{ is extendable}\}.$$

GCE is NP-complete!

#### **GCE** is NP-complete

 $\phi(x_1,\ldots,x_n)=C_1\wedge\cdots\wedge C_m$  is a 3-CNF formula. We determine N,M,c and a partial c-coloring  $\chi$  of  $N\times M$  such that

$$\phi \in 3\text{-SAT}$$
 iff  $(N, M, c, \chi) \in \mathit{GCE}$ 

## Forcing a Color to Only Appear Once in Main Grid

G								
G								
R		G						
G								
G								
G								
G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G

**G** can only appear once in the main grid, where it is, but what about **R**? (The double lines are not part of the construction. They are there to separate the main grid from the rest.)

## Forcing a Color to Only Appear Once in Main Grid

R	G								
R	G								
R	R		G						
R	G								
R	G								
R	G								
R	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G	G
R	G	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	R

G can only appear once in the main grid, where it is. R cannot appear anywhere in the main grid.

#### **Using Variables**

D means that the color is some *distinct*, unique color.

	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
$\overline{x}_1$		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F	T	F
$\overline{x}_1$		D	D	D	D	T	F	T	F	D	D
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		D	D	T	F	T	F	D	D	D	D
$\overline{x}_1$		Т	F	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D

The labeled  $x_1, \overline{x}_1$  are not part of the grid. They are visual aids.

# **Using Variables**

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	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
$\overline{x}_1$		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F	T	F
$\overline{x}_1$		D	D	D	D	T	F	T	F	D	D
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		D	D	Т	F	T	F	D	D	D	D
$\overline{x}_1$		Т	F	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D

The labeled  $x_1, \overline{x}_1$  are not part of the grid. They are visual aids. First col forced to be T-F-T-F-T or F-T-F-T

# **Coding a Clause**

 $C_1 = L_1 \lor L_2 \lor L_3$ . Where  $L_1, L_2, L_3$  are literals (vars or their negations).

		D	T	T
	:	:	:	
$L_1$			D	F
	:	:	:	
L <sub>2</sub>				
	:	:	:	
L <sub>3</sub>			F	D
	:	:	:	:

The  $L_1, L_2, L_3$  are not part of the grid. They are visual aids.

# Coding a Clause—More Readable

$$C_1 = L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3$$
.

	D	T	T
$L_1$		D	F
L <sub>2</sub>			
L <sub>3</sub>		F	D

#### One can show that

- ▶ If put any of TTT, TTF, TFT, FTT, FTF, TFF in first column then can extend to full coloring.
- If put FFF in first column then cannot extend to a full coloring.

# Example: (F,F,T)

$$C_1=L_1\vee L_2\vee L_3.$$

	D	T	T
$L_1$	F	D	F
L <sub>2</sub>	F		*
L <sub>3</sub>	T	F	D

The \* is forced to be T.

# Example: (F,F,T)

$$C_1 = L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3.$$

	D	T	T
$L_1$	F	D	F
L <sub>2</sub>	F	*	T
L <sub>3</sub>	T	F	D

The \* is forced to be F.

# Example: (F,F,T)

$$C_1 = L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3.$$

	D	1	/
$L_1$	F	D	F
L <sub>2</sub>	F	F	T
L <sub>3</sub>	T	F	D

# **Other Assignments**

- **1**. We did (*F*, *F*, *T*).
- 2. (F, T, F), (T, F, F) are similar.
- 3. (F, T, T), (T, F, T), (T, T, F), (T, T, T) are easier.

# Cannot Use (F,F,F)

 $C_1 = L_1 \vee L_2 \vee L_3$ . Want that (F, F, F) cannot be extended to a coloring.

	D	T	T
$L_1$	F	D	F
L <sub>2</sub>	F	*	*
L <sub>3</sub>	F	F	D

The \*'s are forced to be T.

# Cannot Use (F,F,F)

	D	Т	T
$L_1$	F	D	F
L <sub>2</sub>	F	Т	T
L <sub>3</sub>	F	F	D

There is a mono rectangle of T's. Not a valid coloring!

### Put it all Together

Do the above for all variables and all clauses to obtain the result that GRID EXT is NP-complete!

# **Big Example**

 $(x_1 \lor x_2 \lor \overline{x}_3) \land (\overline{x}_2 \lor x_3 \lor x_4) \land (\overline{x}_1 \lor \overline{x}_3 \lor \overline{x}_4)$ 

												$C_1$	$C_1$	<i>C</i> <sub>2</sub>	$C_2$	<i>C</i> <sub>3</sub>	<i>C</i> <sub>3</sub>
	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	T	T	T	Т	T	T
$\overline{X}_4$		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	F
X <sub>4</sub>		D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F	D	D	D	F	D	D
$\overline{x}_3$		D	D	D	D	D	D	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D
<i>X</i> 3		D	D	D	D	T	F	T	F	D	D	D	D			D	D
$\overline{x}_3$		D	D	D	D	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	F	D	D		
$\overline{x}_2$		D	D	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	F	D	D	D
<i>X</i> <sub>2</sub>		D	D	T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D			D	D	D	D
$\overline{x}_1$		T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	F	D
<i>x</i> <sub>1</sub>		T	F	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	D	F	D	D	D	D	D

- 1. Maybe Not GCE is Fixed Parameter Tractable. For fixed c GCE $_c$  is in time  $O(N^2M^2 + 2^{O(c^4)})$ . But for c = 4 this is huge!
- Maybe Yes Gives a sense that brute force search is needednot shortcuts.

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- 3. Maybe Not Our result says nothing about the case where the grid is originally all blank.
- 4. Maybe Yes GCE problem should be easier than starting with all blanks.

# Key to $O(N^2M^2 + 2^{O(c^4)})$ Result

**Lemma** Let  $\chi$  be a partial c-coloring of  $G_{n,m}$ . Let U be the uncolored grid points. Let |U|=u. There is an algorithm that will determine if  $\chi$  can be extended to a full c-coloring that runs in time  $O(cnm2^{2u})=2^{O(nm)}$ .

**Set Up the Algorithm** For  $S \subseteq U$  and  $1 \le i \le c$  let

$$f(S,i) = \begin{cases} \textbf{Yes} & \text{if } \chi \text{ can be extended to } S \text{ using colors } \{1,\ldots,i\}; \\ \textbf{No} & \text{if not.} \end{cases}$$

For  $S \subseteq U$  and  $1 \le i \le c$  use Dynamic Programming to compute f(S,i). f(U,c) is your answer.

End of Set Up of Algorithm

# Computing f(S, i)

Assume that  $(\forall S', |S'| < |S|)(\forall 1 \le i \le c)[f(S', i) \text{ is known}].$ 

- 1. For all 1-colorable  $T \subseteq S$  do the following
  - 1.1 If f(S-T,i) = NO then f(S,i) = NO and STOP.
  - 1.2 If f(S-T,i-1)=YES then determine if coloring T with i works. If yes then f(S,i)=YES and STOP. Note that this takes O(nm).
- 2. We know that for all 1-colorable  $T \subseteq S$  f(S T, i) = YES and either
  - (1) f(S-T, i-1) = NO or
  - (2) f(S-T, i-1) = YES and coloring T with i bad. In all cases f(S, i) = NO.

### **Open Questions**

- 1. Improve Fixed Parameter Tractable algorithm.
- 2. NPC results for mono squares? Other shapes?
- 3. Show that

$$\{(n, m, c) : G_{n,m} \text{ is } c\text{-colorable }\}$$

#### is hard.

- If n, m in unary then sparse set, not NPC—New framework for hardness needed.
- ▶ If *n*, *m* binary then not in NP. Could try to prove NEXP-complete. But the difficulty of the problem is not with the grid being large, but with the number-of-possibilities being large.

#### Part II of Talk—Lower Bounds on Tree Resolution

# YOU SAY YOU WANT A RESOLUTION!

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# YOU SAY YOU WANT A RESOLUTION!

If you write a good parody of the Beatles **You say you want a revolution** about resolution theorem proving, I will treat you to lunch at **The Food Factory**, if they open up again.

#### Resolution

**Def** Let  $\varphi = C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_L$  be a CNF formula. A **Resolution Proof** of  $\varphi \notin SAT$  is a sequence of clauses such that on each line you have either

- 1. One of the C's in  $\varphi$  (called an **Axiom**).
- 2.  $A \lor B$  if  $A \lor x$  and  $B \lor \neg x$  were on prior lines. Variable that is resolved on is x.
- 3. The last line has the empty clause.

# **Example**

$$\varphi = x_1 \wedge x_2 \wedge (\neg x_1 \vee \neg x_2)$$

- 1.  $x_1$  Axiom
- 2.  $\neg x_1 \lor \neg x_2$  **AXIOM**
- 3.  $\neg x_2$  (From lines 1,2, resolve on  $x_1$ .)
- 4.  $x_2$  Axiom
- 5.  $\emptyset$  (From lines 3,4, resolve on  $x_2$ .)

# Resolution is Complete

**Def** Let  $\varphi = C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_L$  be a CNF formula on *n* variables.

- 1. If exists a Res Proof of  $\varphi \notin SAT$  then  $\varphi \notin SAT$ .

  Proof Any assignment that satisfies  $\varphi$  satisfies any node of the Res Proof including the last node  $\emptyset$ .
- 2. If φ ∉ SAT then exists a Res Proof of φ ∉ SAT of size 2<sup>O(n)</sup>. Proof Form a Decision Tree that has at every node on level i the variable x<sub>i</sub>. Right=T and Left=F. A leaf is the first clause that is false with that assignment. Turn Decision Tree upside down! View nodes as which var to resolve on! This will be Res Proof! (It will even be Tree Res Proof.)

The and of the following:

1. For 
$$i, j \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$$

 $x_{ij1} \vee x_{ij2}$ .

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$$i, j, i', j' \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$$

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$$\neg x_{ij1} \lor \neg x_{i'j1} \lor \neg x_{ij'1} \lor \neg x_{i'j'1}$$

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3. For  $i, j, i', j' \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$ 

$$\neg x_{ij2} \vee \neg x_{i'j2} \vee \neg x_{ij'2} \vee \neg x_{i'j'2}$$

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$$x_{ij1} \vee x_{ij2}$$
.

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2. For  $i, j, i', j' \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$ 

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3. For  $i, j, i', j' \in \{1, \dots, 5\}$ 

$$\neg x_{ij2} \lor \neg x_{i'j2} \lor \neg x_{ij'2} \lor \neg x_{i'j'2}$$

**Interpretation** There is no mono 2-rectangle.

We interpret this statement as saying

There is a 2-coloring of  $G_{5.5}$ .

This statement is known to be false.



# GRID(n, m, c)

**Def** Let  $n, m, c \in \mathbb{N}$ . GRID(n, m, c) is the **and** of the following:

1. For  $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$  and  $j \in \{1, ..., m\}$ ,

$$x_{ij1} \lor x_{ij2} \lor \cdots \lor x_{ijc}$$

**Interpretation** (i,j) is colored either 1 or  $\cdots$  or c.

2. For  $i, i' \in \{1, ..., n\}$ ,  $j, j' \in \{1, ..., m\}$ ,  $k \in \{1, ..., c\}$ ,

$$\neg x_{ijk} \lor \neg x_{i'jk} \lor \neg x_{ij'k} \lor \neg x_{i'j'k}$$

**Interpretation** There is no mono rectangle.

We interpret this statement as saying

There is a *c*-coloring of  $G_{n,m}$ .

**Note** GRID(n, m, c) has nmc **VARS** and  $O(cn^2m^2)$  **CLAUSES**.



# GRID(n, m, c)—How to View Assignments

#### Given an assignment:

- 1. For all  $i \in [n]$  and  $j \in [m]$  let k be the **least** number such that  $x_{ijk} = T$ . View this as saying that (i,j) is colored k.
- 2. If there is NO such number then (i,j) is not colored and this assignment makes GRID(n, m, c) false.

Hence we view assignments as attempted colorings of the grid where some points are not colored.

# Two Ways to Invalidate GRID(n, m, c)

- 1. There is a mono rectangle.
- 2. There is some point that is not colored: there is some i, j such that all  $x_{ijk}$  are false.

#### **Tree Resolution Proofs**

**Def** A **Tree Res Proof** is a Res Proof where the underlying graph is a tree. Note that if you remove the bottom node that is labeled  $\emptyset$  then the Tree Res Proof is cut into two **disjoint** parts. **Known** If  $\varphi \notin SAT$  and  $\varphi$  has  $\gamma$  variables then there is a Tree Res

**Known** If  $\varphi \notin SAT$  and  $\varphi$  has v variables then there is a Tree Res Proof of  $\varphi$  of size  $2^{O(v)}$ .

#### **Our Goal**

Assume that there is no c-coloring of  $G_{n,m}$ .

- 1. GRID(n, m, c) has a size  $2^{O(cnm)}$  Tree Res Proof.
- 2. We show  $2^{\Omega(c)}$  size is **required**. This is our point!
- 3. The lower bound is **independent** of n, m.

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1. We showed that  $G_{2c^2-c,,2c}$  is not c-colorable. Hence

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has  $O(c^3)$  vars,  $O(c^6)$  clauses but  $2^{\Omega(c)}$  Tree Res proof.

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has  $O(c^3)$  vars,  $O(c^6)$  clauses but  $2^{\Omega(c)}$  Tree Res proof.

2. Easy to show  $G_{c^3,c^3}$  is not c-colorable.

$$GRID(c^3, c^3, c)$$

has  $O(c^7)$  vars,  $O(c^{13})$  clauses and  $2^{\Omega(c)}$  Tree Res proof. These are poly-in-c formulas that **require**  $2^{\Omega(c)}$  Tree Res proofs.

#### The Prover-Delayer Game

(Due to Pudlak and Impagliazzo [PI].) Parameters of the game:  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,

$$\varphi = C_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge C_L \notin SAT.$$

Do the following until a clause is proven false:

- 1. **PROVER** picks a variable x that was not already picked.
- 2. **DEL** either
  - 2.1 Sets x to F or T, OR
  - 2.2 Defers to **PROVER** who then sets x to T or F while **DEL** gets a point.

At end if **DEL** has  $\geq p$  pts then he wins; else **PROVER** wins.

#### Convention

We assume that **PROVER** and **DEL** play perfectly.

- 1. PROVER wins means PROVER has a winning strategy.
- 2. DEL wins means DEL has a winning strategy.

#### **Prover-Delayer Game and Tree Res Proofs**

**Lemma** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\varphi \notin SAT$ . If  $\varphi$  has a Tree Res Proof of size  $< 2^p$  then **PROVER** wins.

#### **Prover-Delayer Game and Tree Res Proofs**

**Lemma** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\varphi \notin SAT$ . If  $\varphi$  has a Tree Res Proof of size  $< 2^p$  then **PROVER** wins. **Pf PROVER** Strategy:

- 1. Initially T is res tree of size  $< 2^p$  and DEL has 0 pts.
- 2. **PROVER** picks x, the **last** var **resolved on**.
- 3. If **DEL** sets *x* then **DEL** gets no pts.
- If DEL defers then PROVER sets T or F—whichever yields a smaller tree. Note One of the trees will be of size < 2<sup>p-1</sup>. DEL gets 1 point.
- 5. Repeat: after *i*th stage will always have T of size  $< 2^{p-i}$ , and **DEL** has  $\le i$  pts.

#### Contrapositive is Awesome!

#### Recall:

**Lemma** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\varphi \notin SAT$ . If  $\varphi$  has a Tree Res Proof of size  $< 2^p$  then **PROVER** wins.

## Contrapositive is Awesome!

#### Recall:

**Lemma** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\varphi \notin SAT$ . If  $\varphi$  has a Tree Res Proof of size  $< 2^p$  then **PROVER** wins.

#### Contrapositive

**Lemma** Let  $p \in \mathbb{R}^+$ ,  $\varphi \notin SAT$ . If **DEL** wins then **EVERY** Tree Res Proof for  $\varphi$  has size  $\geq 2^p$ . Plan Get awesome strategy for **DEL** when  $\varphi = GRID(n, m, c)$ .

## GRID(n, m, c) Requires Exp Tree Res Proofs

Thm Let n, m, c be such that  $G_{n,m}$  is not c-colorable. Let  $c \ge 2$ . Any tree resolution proof of  $GRID(n, m, c) \notin SAT$  requires size  $2^{0.5c}$ .

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**Pf** Parameters: p = 0.5c,  $\varphi = GRID(n, m, c)$ .

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- 2. If none of the  $x_{ij*}$  are T and  $\geq \frac{c}{2}$  of the  $x_{ij*}$  are F via **PROVER** then **DEL** sets  $x_{ijk}$  to T.

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- 1. If setting  $x_{ijk} = T$  creates a mono rect (of color k) then **DEL** does not let this happen— he sets  $x_{ijk}$  to F.
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- In all other cases the DEL defers to the PROVER.

#### Case 1: Prover Set c/2 Vars to F

Game ends when there is some i, j such that

$$x_{ij1}=x_{ij2}=\cdots=x_{ijc}=F.$$

Who set those variables to F?

Case 1 At least  $\frac{c}{2}$  set F by Prover. Then **DEL** gets at least 0.5c pts.

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x_{ij1} = x_{ij2} = \cdots = x_{ijc} = F. Who set those vars to F? Case 2 At least \frac{c}{2} set F by DEL. Assume they are x_{ij1}, x_{ij2}, \ldots, x_{ijc/2}.
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▶  $x_{ij1}$  set to F by **DEL**. Why? There exists i', j' such that  $x_{i'j1}, x_{ij'1}, x_{i'j'1}$  all set to T. (Do not know by who.)

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- ▶  $x_{ij1}$  set to F by **DEL**. Why? There exists i', j' such that  $x_{i'j1}, x_{ij'1}, x_{i'j'1}$  all set to T. (Do not know by who.)
- ▶  $x_{ij2}$  set to F by **DEL**. Why? There exists i'', j'' such that  $x_{i''j2}, x_{ij''2}, x_{i''j''2}$  all set to T. (Do not know by who.)

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- ▶  $x_{ij1}$  set to F by **DEL**. Why? There exists i', j' such that  $x_{i'j1}, x_{ij'1}, x_{i'j'1}$  all set to T. (Do not know by who.)
- ▶  $x_{ij2}$  set to F by **DEL**. Why? There exists i'', j'' such that  $x_{i''j2}, x_{ij''2}, x_{i''j''2}$  all set to T. (Do not know by who.)
- etc.

For every k such that  $x_{ijk}$  is set to F by **DEL** there exists **three** vars of form  $x_{**k}$  set to T.

**Key** All these 3-sets are **disjoint**, so at least 3c/2 vars set T (by who?).

#### Case 2a: Prover Set 3c/2 Vars to T

Key At least 3c/2 vars set T (by who?). Case 2a PROVER set  $\geq \frac{3c}{4}$  to T. DEL gets at least 0.75c = 0.75c pts.

# Case 2b: Del Set 3c/2 Vars To T

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At time there are c/2 k' such that **PROVER** set  $x_{ijk'}$  to F.

# Case 2b: Del Set 3c/2 Vars To T

Case 2b DEL set  $\geq \frac{3c}{4}$  to T. DEL set  $x_{ijk}$  to T:

- ▶ At time there are c/2 k' such that **PROVER** set  $x_{ijk'}$  to F.
- ▶ **DEL** will **never** set an  $x_{ij*}$  to T again! **never**!!

Every  $x_{ijk}$  set T by **DEL** implies that c/2 vars set F by **PROVER**, and these sets of c/2 vars are disjoint.

**Upshot PROVER** had set  $\frac{3c}{4} \times \frac{c}{2}$  to *F*. **DEL** gets at least

$$0.375c^2 = 0.375c^2$$
 pts.

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- ► Case 2a DEL gets at least 0.75c pts.
- ► Case 2b DEL gets at least 0.375c<sup>2</sup> pts.

**Upshot** For  $c \ge 2$  **DEL** gets at least 0.5c pts. **Punchline** By **Lemma** any Tree Res Proof has size  $\ge 2^{0.5c}$ .

#### **Optimize**

- 1. In construction use cutoff of c/2 for when **DEL** sets  $x_{ijk}$  to T. Choose fraction **carefully**.
- In analysis we twice do a half-half cutoff. Choose fractions carefully!
- Use asymmetric PROVER-DEL game (next slide) and choose a, b carefully!

Thm Let n, m, c be such that  $G_{n,m}$  is not c-colorable. Let  $c \geq 9288$ . Any tree resolution proof of  $GRID(n, m, c) \notin SAT$  requires size  $2^{0.836c}$ .

(Due to Beyersdorr, Galesi, Lauria [BGL].) Parameters of the game:  $a,b\in(1,\infty)$ , with  $\frac{1}{a}+\frac{1}{b}=1$ ,  $p\in\mathsf{R}^+$ ,

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    - 2.2.2 If **PROVER** sets x = T then **DEL** gets  $\lg b$  pts.

At end if **DEL** has  $\geq p$  pts then he wins; else **PROVER** wins.

#### **Other Shapes**

What is special about rectangles? **Nothing! Def** (Informally) Let S be a set of at least 2 grid points. Let  $\mathrm{GRID}(n,m,c;S)$  be the prop statement that there is a c-coloring of  $G_{n,m}$  with no mono configuration that is "like S".

Thm (Informally) Let S be a set of at least 2 grid points. Let n, m, c be such that  $GRID(n, m, c; S) \notin SAT$ . Any tree resolution proof of  $GRID(n, m, c; S) \notin SAT$  requires size  $2^{\Omega(c)}$ .

#### **Open Questions**

- 1. Want matching upper bounds for Tree Res Proofs of  $GRID(n, m, c) \notin SAT$ .
- 2. Want lower bounds on Gen Res Proofs of  $GRID(n, m, c) \notin SAT$ .
- 3. Want lower bounds on in other proof systems  $GRID(n, m, c) \notin SAT$ .
- 4. Upper and lower bounds for GRID(n, m, c; S) for various S in various proof systems.

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