## <span id="page-0-0"></span>News on polychromatic colorings

#### Dömötör Pálvölgyi

Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry

Discrete Geometry Days<sup>3</sup>

BME 2024

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Before abstract definitions, geometric examples.

Dömötör Pálvölgyi [News on polychromatic colorings](#page-0-0)

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目

#### Theorem (1-dim polychromatic coloring)

Every  $X \subset \mathbb{R}$  can be colored with k colors such that every interval with  $> k$  points from X is polychromatic (i.e., contains all k colors).

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#### Theorem (1-dim cover-decomposition)

If collection  $\mathcal I$  of intervals covers some  $X \subset \mathbb R$  k-fold, then  $\exists \mathcal{I}_1 \cup^* \ldots \cup^* \mathcal{I}_k = \mathcal{I}$  such that each  $\mathcal{I}_i$  covers X.

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Lower are called *dual* range spaces—in this talk we mainly consider upper, so-called primal range spaces, i.e., coloring points.

Halfplanes show that situation is more complex in plane.

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Theorem (Smorodinsky-Yuditsky '12)

We can color any finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with k colors such that every halfplane with at least  $m_k = 2k - 1$  points contains all k colors.

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### Lines

### Theorem (Pach-Tardos-Tóth '05)

For every k, m there is a finite  $X\subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that for every k-coloring of X there is a line that contains at least m points from X and all have the same color.

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#### Theorem (Hales-Jewett '63)

For every k, m there is a d such that for every k-coloring of the d-dimensional grid  $X = \{1, \ldots, m\}^d$  there is a line that contains m points from X and all have the same color.

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HJ ⇒ PTT: Take a generic projection of  $\{1,\ldots,m\}^d$  to  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .  $\Box$ From the point-line duality of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  we get:

### Theorem (Pach-Tardos-Tóth '05)

For every  $k, m^*$  there is a finite collection of lines  $\mathcal L$  in the plane such that for every k-coloring of  $\mathcal L$  there is a point contained in at least  $m^*$  lines from  $\mathcal L$  and all have the same color.

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For a hypergraph  $\mathcal{H} = (V, \mathcal{E})$ , denote by  $m_k$  the smallest number for which we can k-color any finite  $X \subset V$  such that for any  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ with  $|E \cap X| > m_k$  all k colors occur in  $E \cap X$ .

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Same for chromatic number:  $\chi_{fat} = min\{k : \exists m \text{ there is a proper }$  $k$ -coloring of *m*-fat induced subhypergraphs.

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From defs: 
$$
\chi_{fat} = 2 \iff m_2 < \infty
$$
  
 $m_k \le m_{k+1}$ 

# Back to Geometry: Translates



## Conjecture (Pach '80)

Thick coverings of the plane by translates of any convex planar range are decomposable into two coverings.

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For every planar convex set D there is an m such that we can color any finite  $X\subset \mathbb{R}^2$  with two colors such that every translate of D with at least m points contains both colors, i.e.,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} = 2$ .

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Theorem (P. '13, Pach-P. '16)

For every m there is a finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that for every two-coloring of X there is a unit disk that contains at least m points from X and all have the same color, i.e.,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} > 2$ .

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Corollary: There is a 1000-fold covering of the plane by unit disks that cannot be decomposed into two coverings.

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Is Pach's conjecture true if we can use more colors?

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Lemma: Delaunay triangulation is planar graph. We can apply the Four Color Theorem.

#### Conjecture (Keszegh '08, Keszegh-P. '17)

For every planar convex D there is an m such that any finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  can be 3-colored such that every homothet of D with m points is non-monochromatic, i.e.,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} \leq 3$ .

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What about disks?

Theorem (Pach-Tardos-Tóth '05)

For every m there is a finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  such that for every 2-coloring of  $X$  there is a disk that contains at least m points from  $X$  and all have the same color, i.e.,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} > 2$ .

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#### Theorem (Damásdi-P.  $22+$ )

For translates of any convex planar shape  $\chi_{\rm fat}$   $\leq$  3.

# Summary for Disks



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# Summary for Disks



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## Theorem (P. '10)

For every polyhedron  $P \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  and m there is a finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  such that for every two-coloring of  $X$  there is a monochromatic translate of P that contains at least m points from X, i.e.,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} > 2$ .

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Theorem (Keszegh-P. '11, '15)

Any finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  can be two-colored such that any translate of an octant with 9 points is non-monochromatic, therefore,  $\chi_{\text{fat}} = 2$ .



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#### **Corollary**

Any finite  $X\subset \mathbb{R}^2$  can be two-colored such that any homothet of a triangle with 9 points is non-monochromatic.

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Follows from realizing all axis-parallel rectangles and from

Theorem (Chen-Pach-Szegedy-Tardos '09)

For all axis-parallel rectangles  $\chi_{\text{fat}} = \infty$ .

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### Bottomless Rectangles

Theorem (Keszegh '11, Asinowski, Cardinal, Cohen, Collette, Hackl, Hoffmann, Knauer, Langerman, Lason, Micek, Rote, Ueckerdt '13)

Any finite  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  can be k-colored such that any axis-parallel bottomless rectangle with  $m_k \leq 3k - 2$  points contains all k colors.

Theorem (Cardinal, Knauer, Micek, Ueckerdt  $(+ KP)$  '15) Any finite collection of axis-parallel bottomless rectangles can be k-colored such any point covered by  $m_k^* = O(k^{5.09})$  rectangles is covered by all k colors.

We do not know matching lower bounds.

Theorem (Cardinal, Knauer, Micek, P., Ueckerdt, Varadarajan)  $m_k^* \leq 2k-1$  in many special cases.

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### Hereditary k-colorability of Abstract Hypergraphs

For a hypergraph  $\mathcal{H} = (V, \mathcal{E})$ , denote by  $m_k$  the smallest number for which we can k-color any finite  $X \subset V$  such that for any  $E \in \mathcal{E}$ with  $|E \cap X| \ge m_k$  all k colors occur in  $E \cap X$ . For intervals  $m_k = k$ , for halfplanes  $m_k = 2k - 1$ .  $m_k = \infty$  is possible, e.g., for lines. Important: In the induced hypergraph  $\mathcal{H}|_X$  we only care about  $m_k$ -heavy edges. This is  $m_k$ -fat induced subhypergraph of H. Same for chromatic number:  $\chi_{fat} = min\{k : \exists m \text{ there is a proper }$ k-coloring of m-fat induced subhypergraphs}.  $\chi_{\text{fat}} = \infty$  for lines. From defs:  $\chi_{\text{fat}} = 2 \iff m_2 < \infty$ 

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Can we bound  $m_k$  with a function of  $m_2$ ?

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### Theorem (Berge '72)

For hereditary families  $m_2 = 2$  if and only if  $m_k = k$  for every k.

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# SEE BLACKBOARD!

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For dual bottomless rectangles and dual halfplanes:

 $m_2^* = 3$  but we don't know whether  $m_k^* = 2k - 1$ .

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### Theorem  $(P. '23+)$

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Goal: Find 5-uniform hypergraph on 8 vertices with  $m_2 = 3$  where every pair of vertices is avoided by a hyperedge  $\Rightarrow \alpha \leq 5 < \frac{2}{3}$  $\frac{2}{3} \cdot 8$ .

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