

# A weak coloring principle

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## The principle ERT

ERT (Eventually repeating tails): Suppose  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then there is a  $b \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $x \geq b$  there is a  $y \geq b$  such that  $x \neq y$  and  $f(x) = f(y)$ .

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$f(n)$	▲	■	■	★	▲	■	■	▲	■	■

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ECT (Eventually constant tail spectra): Suppose  $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then there is a  $b \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $x \geq b$  there is a  $y > x$  such that  $f(x) = f(y)$ .

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$b$

Clearly,  $\text{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{ECT} \rightarrow \text{ERT}$

## ECT and $\text{I}\Sigma_2^0$

$\text{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{I}\Sigma_2^0 \rightarrow \text{ECT}$

Ideas from a proof [5]:

Use bounded  $\Sigma_2^0$  comprehension to isolate the colors that appear only finitely many times.

$$F = \{c \mid \exists b \forall x (x > b \rightarrow f(x) \neq c)\}$$

Use  $\text{B}\Sigma_2^0$  to find a strict upper bound on all occurrences of colors in  $F$ . This is the desired  $b$ .

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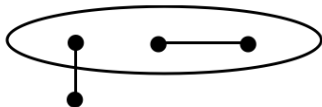
The implication reverses:  $\text{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{I}\Sigma_2^0 \leftrightarrow \text{ECT}$

Consequence:  $\text{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{I}\Sigma_2^0 \rightarrow \text{ERT}$   
(We will see that this doesn't reverse.)

## What Theorem Follows?

ERT is related to vertex colorings of hypergraphs.

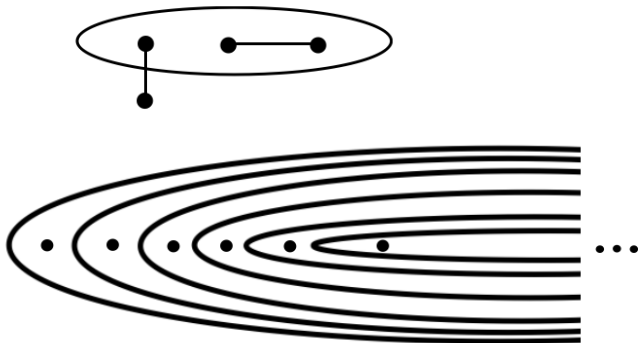
A hypergraph consists of vertices and sets of vertices (edges).



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The M-graph

## What Theorem Follows?

An aside: Here is a version of  $RT_2^3$ .

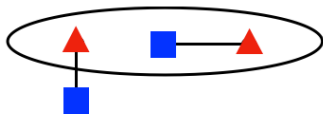
If the edges of the hypergraph  $[N]^3$  are colored with two colors, then there is an infinite set  $H$  such that the subhypergraph  $[H]^3$  is monochromatic.

In general, Ramsey's theorem can be viewed as addressing edge colorings of hypergraphs.



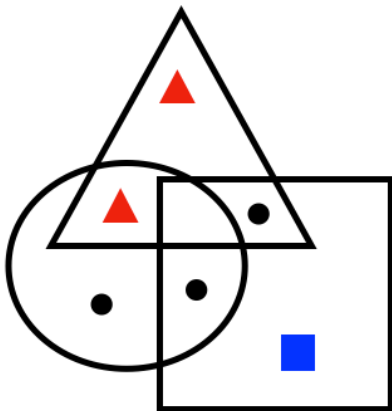
## What Theorem Follows?

A vertex coloring of a hypergraph is *conflict free* if every edge contains a color that appears only once in that edge.



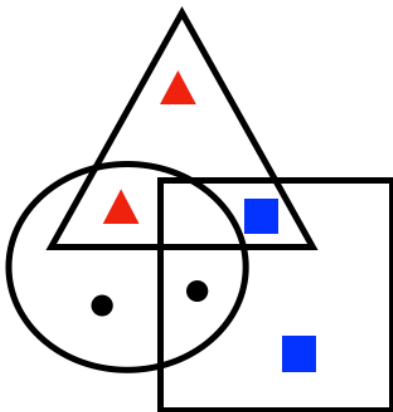
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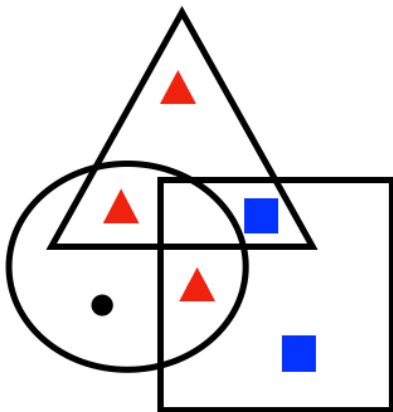
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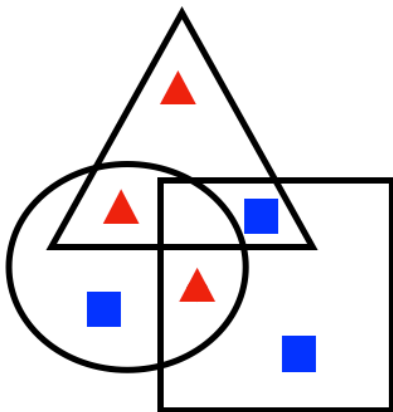
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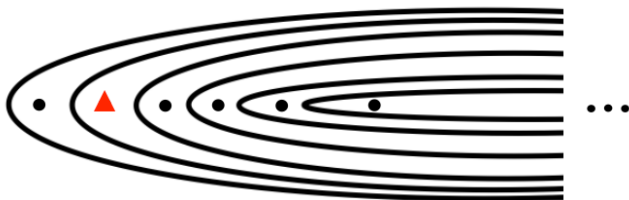
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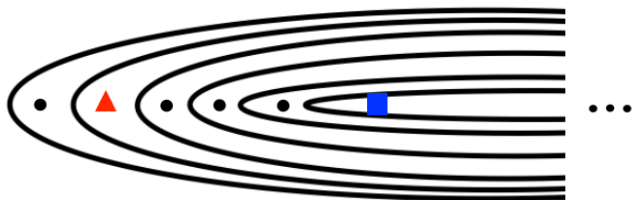
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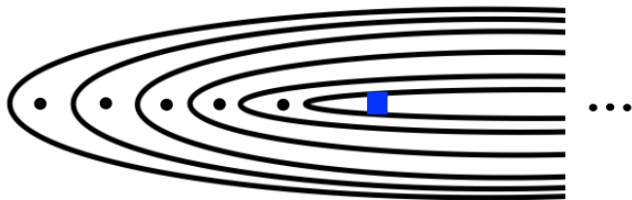
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Every finite partial subhypergraph of the M-graph has a conflict free 2-coloring.



## What Theorem Follows? Finally answered.

**Theorem:** ( $\text{RCA}_0$ ) The following are equivalent:

1. ERT
2. The M-graph has no finite conflict free coloring.

Sketch:

→ Finitely color the M-graph. Apply ERT to the coloring; get  $b$ . The edge starting at vertex  $b$  has no singleton color. The coloring is not conflict free.

← Finitely color  $\mathbb{N}$ . Copy to the M-graph. Some  $E_b$  has no singleton color.  $b$  witnesses ERT.

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Finite partial subhypergraphs of the M-graph have conflict free 2-colorings, but the M-graph has no conflict free 2-coloring (or finite coloring). In this setting, compactness does not hold.

## How strong is ERT?

Is it provable in  $\text{RCA}_0$ ? Maybe, but not in any obvious fashion.

Is it equivalent to  $\text{I}\Sigma_2^0$  over  $\text{RCA}_0$ ? No.

Chong, Slaman, and Yang [1] proved that  $\text{SRT}_2^2$  does not imply  $\text{I}\Sigma_2^0$ . If we prove ERT from  $\text{SRT}_2^2$ , then we will know that ERT is strictly weaker than  $\text{I}\Sigma_2^0$ .

# Thm: $RCA_0 \vdash SRT_2^2 \rightarrow ERT$

Goal: convert a finite coloring of  $\mathbb{N}$  into a 2-coloring of pairs.

Method:

Color an interval 1 if and only if it contains a singleton color.

Example:

n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9...
f(n)	▲	■	■	★	▲	■	★	★	▲	★

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			[		[ 0 )					

Note that the coloring is stable. Double swaps use a color.

Thm:  $RCA_0 \vdash SRT_2^2 \rightarrow ERT$

Apply  $SRT_2^2$ . Consider a big (e.g.  $3 \cdot 2^{k-1}$ ) homogeneous set.  
Suppose every interval contains a singleton color.

$h_0 \quad h_1 \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet \quad \bullet$   
[  $s_0$  ]



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[  $s_0$  )  
[  $s_1$  )  $\leftarrow$  no  $s_0$

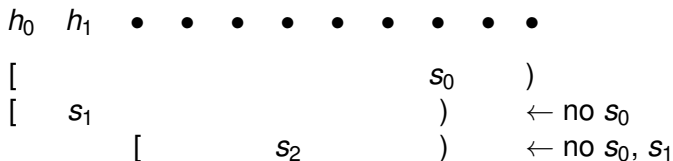
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Apply  $\text{SRT}_2^2$ . Consider a big (e.g.  $3 \cdot 2^{k-1}$ ) homogeneous set.  
 Suppose every interval contains a singleton color.



In  $k$  steps we find an interval with no possible color.  $\rightarrow \leftarrow$   
 So every interval contains no singleton colors.  
 $h_0$  is the  $b$  for ERT.

## Partial functions and $P\Sigma_0^0$

$P\Sigma_0^0$  asserts the existence of certain sequences for partial functions.

First order version: See Hájek and Pudlák [4]

Second order formulation: See Kreuzer and Yokoyama [6]

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f(n)		2	?	4	6	?	9	3	?

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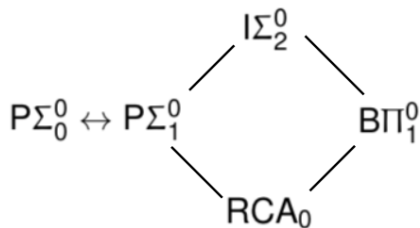
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$P\Sigma_n^0$ : sequences for  $\Sigma_n^0$  definable partial functions.
















Thm:  $RCA_0 \vdash P\Sigma_0^0 \rightarrow ERT$

Goal: Convert a  $k$  coloring of  $\mathbb{N}$  into a partial function.

Method: Values point to next matching location.

Example:



											
n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
f(n)	4	2	?	5	8	6	7	9	?	10	11

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					$s_0$				$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$

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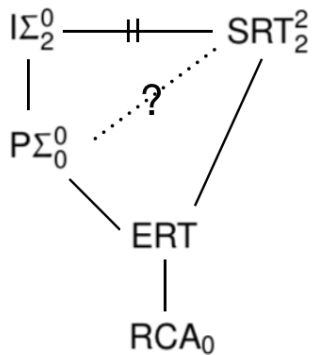
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					$s_0$				$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$
spec	<  >	<  >	<  >	>	<	<  >	<  >	>	<  >	<  >	<  >

The spectra are descending subsets of the colors.

When they match, the leading edge is  $b$  for ERT.

## Summary for ERT



# Hypergraphs and compactness

A vertex coloring of a hypergraph is *strong* if it is injective on every edge.

**Theorem:** ( $\text{RCA}_0$ ) The following are equivalent:

1.  $\text{WKL}_0$
2. Let  $H$  be a hypergraph with a set of finite sets for edges. If every finite partial hypergraph of  $H$  has a strong 3-coloring, then  $H$  has a strong  $k$ -coloring for some  $k$ .
3. Let  $H$  be a hypergraph with a sequence of finite sets for edges. If every finite partial hypergraph of  $H$  has a strong 2-coloring, then  $H$  has a strong  $k$ -coloring for some  $k$ .

$\text{RCA}_0 + \text{I}\Sigma_2^0 \vdash \text{WKL}_0 \leftrightarrow$  every locally 2-colorable graph is finitely colorable. See Schmerl [7] and section 5 of [3].



# References

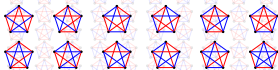
- [1] C. T. Chong, Theodore A. Slaman, and Yue Yang, *The metamathematics of stable Ramsey's theorem for pairs*, J. Amer. Math. Soc. **27** (2014), no. 3, 863–892.  
DOI [10.1090/S0894-0347-2014-00789-X](https://doi.org/10.1090/S0894-0347-2014-00789-X) MR3194495.
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# How many 2-colorings of $K_5$ have no 1-colored $K_3$ ?

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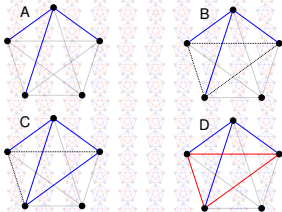
## Introduction

Of the 1024 possible 2-colorings of  $K_5$ , only 12 have no 1-colored triangles.



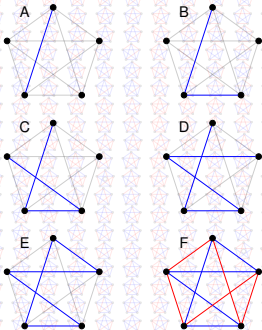
## Claim 1

If any 3 edges match, then there is a 1-colored triangle.



## Claim 2

If  $G$  has no 1-colored triangles, then  $G$  has a 1-colored 5-cycle.

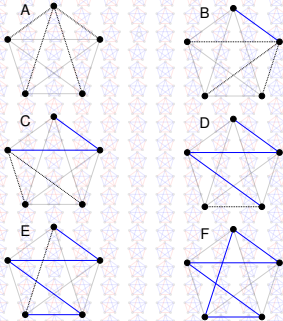


E: 1-colored 5-cycle

F: Remaining edges form a 5-cycle

## Claim 3

There are 12 ways to construct a 1-colored 5-cycle.



$$\frac{4 \cdot 3 \cdot 2 \cdot 1 \cdot 1}{2} = 12$$