# Ramsey numbers and monotone colorings 

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- What is the growth rate of $\overline{\mathrm{R}}\left(\mathcal{P}_{n}^{r}\right)$ ?
- That is, what is the smallest $N \in \mathbb{N}$ such that every 2-coloring of the edges of $\mathcal{K}_{N}^{r}=\left([N],\binom{[N]}{r}\right)$ contains a monochromatic copy of $\mathcal{P}_{n}^{r}$.


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- This question was raised by Fox, Pach, Sudakov, and Suk (2012) who proved

$$
\overline{\mathrm{R}}\left(\mathcal{P}_{n}^{r}\right) \leq \operatorname{tow}_{r-1}(O(n \log n))
$$

for $r \geq 3$, where $\operatorname{tow}_{1}(x)=x$ and $\operatorname{tow}_{h}(x)=2^{\operatorname{tow}_{h-1}(x)}$ for $h \geq 2$, and asked whether

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- In particular, $\overline{\mathrm{R}}\left(\mathcal{P}_{n}^{3}\right)=\binom{2 n-4}{n-2}+1$.

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- Note: not every 2-coloring of $E\left(K_{N}\right)$ can be obtained this way.

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- Then red monotone paths are cups and blue ones are caps.


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- However, such colorings for higher uniformities are not!


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- We settle this problem even for more restrictive colorings.

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- A coloring of edges of $\mathcal{K}_{N}^{r}$ with - and + is $r$-monotone if there is at most one change of a sign in the lexicographically ordered sequence of $r$-tuples of vertices from every $(r+1)$-tuple of vertices.


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| $r=3$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\circ$ | $:$ |  |  |
| 123 | ○ | O | 0 |
| 124 | 134 | 234 |  |

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- Known under many different names, admit geometric interpretations.

Monotone Ramsey numbers

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- For $r \geq 2$ and $n$, let the monotone Ramsey number $\overline{\mathrm{R}}_{\text {mon }}\left(\mathcal{P}_{n}^{r}\right)$ be the minimum $N$ such that every $r$-monotone coloring of the edges of $\mathcal{K}_{N}^{r}$ contains monochromatic $\mathcal{P}_{n}^{r}$.


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For $n$ and $r \geq 3$, we have

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- In particular, this solves Problem 1.
- Asymptotically tight, but the exponent can probably be improved.
- Since $r$-monotone colorings admit geometric interpretations, we obtain estimates for geometric Ramsey-type statements.

Sketch of the construction

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- Construction of $c_{r}=c_{3}$ on $N=2^{n}=8$ verties avoiding $\mathcal{P}^{r}{ }_{2 n+r-1}=\mathcal{P}_{8}^{3}$.


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- For $r=4$, these eight vertices form the "new diagonal".

Geometric interpretations: $k$-pseudoconfigurations

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## Theorem 7 (Miyata, 2017)

For $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$, there is a bijection between sign functions of simple $k$-pseudoconfigurations of $n$ points and $(k+2)$-monotone colorings of $\mathcal{K}_{n}^{k+2}$.

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- True for $r \leq 4$.

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## Theorem 9 (B., 2017+)

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