

How to use entropy compression for existential proofs?

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Probabilistic method in Combinatorics

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To prove the existence of an object with a property, show that a random object satisfies the property with probability > 0 .

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- Make a random partition $\{X, Y\}$ of the vertices: for each vertex, choose with probability $\frac{1}{2}$ if it is in X or in Y .
- An edge has probability $\frac{1}{2}$ to be in the cut.
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→ There exists a cut with $m/2$ edges.

Construction ?

Lovász Local Lemma

Local Lemma (symmetric version)

Let A_1, \dots, A_k be some 'bad' events. If:

- each event occurs with **small probability**, $Pr(A_i) \leq p$,
- each event is **dependent** of **at most** d events,
- $4pd \leq 1$,

\Rightarrow with **nonzero probability**, **no bad event** occurs.

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Constructive proof of Moser

- 2009, Moser at STACS conference, and then, Moser and Tardos:
→ algorithmic and constructive proof of LLL.
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- Used more specifically:
 - Non repetitive words (Grytczuk, Kozik and Micek, 2011)
 - Non repetitive colorings (Dujmović, Joret, Kozik and Wood, 2013)
 - Acyclic edge colorings of graphs (Esperet and P., 2013)

Non repetitive words

A sequence is **non-repetitive** if it does not contain a square uu .

Question:

What is the minimum size of an alphabet on which we can make arbitrary large non-repetitive sequences ?

With two letters ? aba

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The morphism $a \rightarrow abcab$, $b \rightarrow acabcb$, $c \rightarrow acbcacb$ is stable on non-repetitive sequences on $\{a, b, c\}$

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List version

Question:

What is the smallest k such that, for all n , if L_1, L_2, \dots, L_n are n lists of k letters, there always exists a non-repetitive sequence $a_1 \dots a_n$ with $a_i \in L_i$, for all i ?

Example: $L_1 = \{a, b, c\}$, $L_2 = \{a, b, d\}$, $L_3 = \{a, c, d\}$, $L_4 = \{b, c, d\}$

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Theorem Grytczuk, Przybylo and Zhu, 2010

It is possible to extract a non-repetitive sequence for any sequence of lists of size 4.

Proof

Algorithm:

- The sequence is constructed from left to right.
- Choose a_i randomly in L_i .
- If a square is created, remove the second part.

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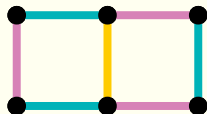
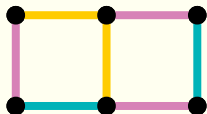
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- For large t , number of bad scenarios $\leq 4^t$.

\Rightarrow **Some scenarios are good !**

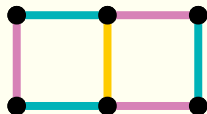
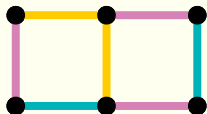
Another example : Acyclic edge coloring of graphs

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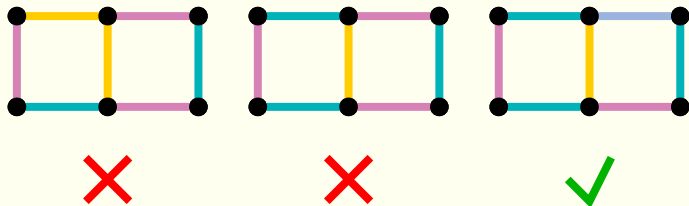
Theorem Vizing, 1964

If G has maximum degree Δ , there is a proper edge coloring in $\Delta + 1$ colors.

Acyclic edge coloring of graphs

An **acyclic edge coloring** of a graph is:

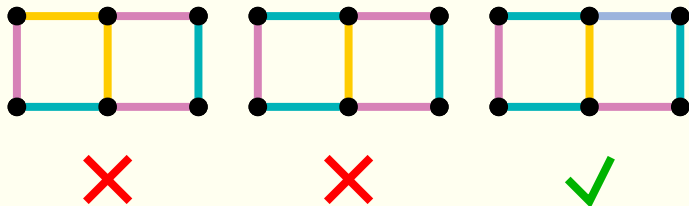
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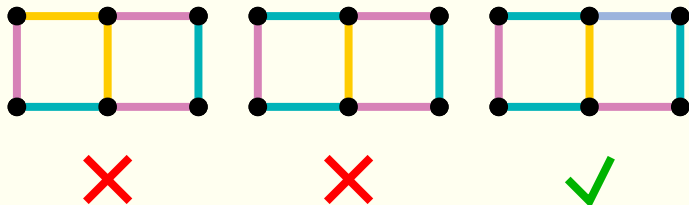


- $a'(G)$: minimum number of colors in an acyclic edge coloring of G .
- If G has maximum degree Δ , $a'(G) \geq \Delta$.

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- If G has maximum degree Δ , $a'(G) \geq \Delta$.

Conjecture Alon, Sudakov and Zaks, 2001

If G has maximum degree Δ , $a'(G) \leq \Delta + 2$.

Results

Using the Lovász Local Lemma and variations:

- $a'(G) \leq 64\Delta$ (Alon, McDiarmid and Reed, 1991)
- $a'(G) \leq 16\Delta$ (Molloy and Reed, 1998)
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Using entropy compression :

Theorem Esperet and P., 2013

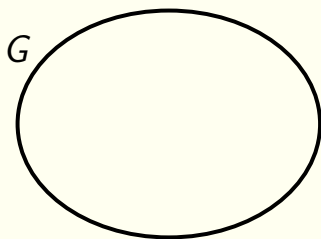
If G has maximum degree Δ , $a'(G) \leq 4\Delta$.

Algorithm

Order the edge set.

While there is an uncolored edge:

- Select the **smallest uncolored** edge e
- Give a **random color** in $\{1, \dots, 4\Delta\}$ to e (not appearing in $N[e]$)
- If e lies in a **bicolored cycle** \mathcal{C} , **uncolor** e and all the other edges of \mathcal{C} , except two edges.

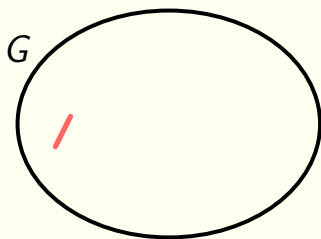


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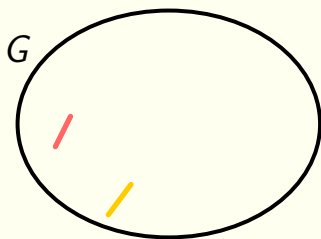


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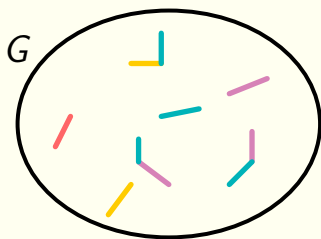


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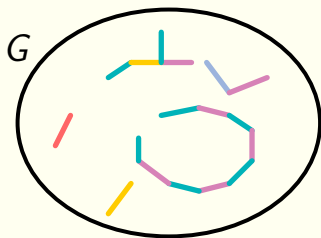


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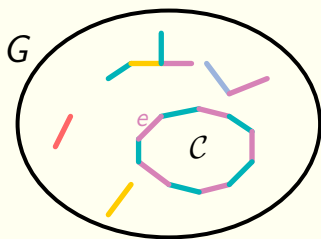


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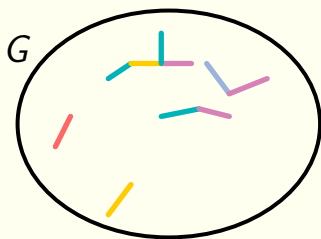


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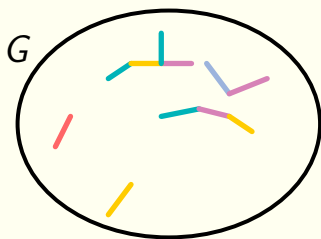


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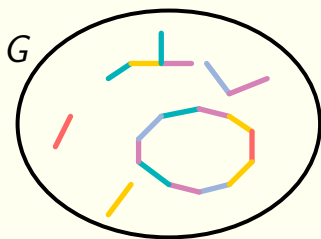


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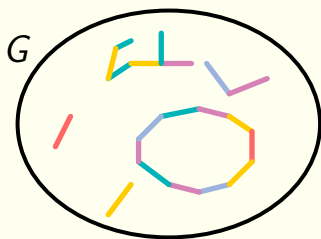


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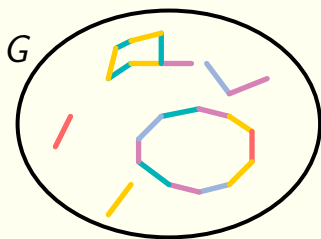


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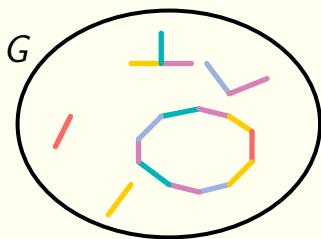


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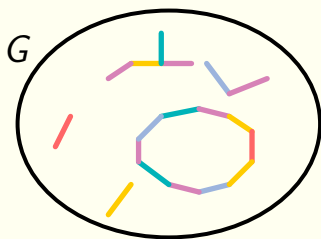


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We prove that this algorithm ends with non zero probability.

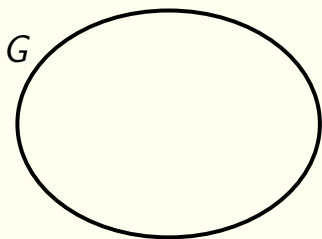
\Rightarrow Any graph has an acyclic edge coloring with 4Δ colors.

Recording

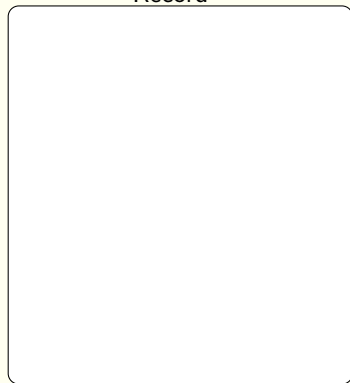
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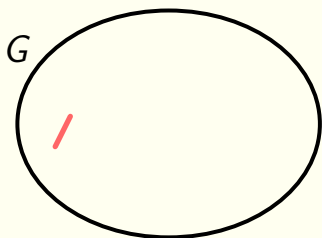


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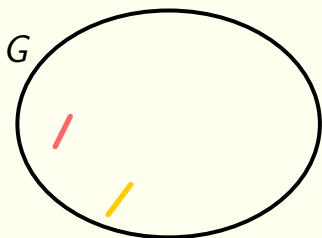


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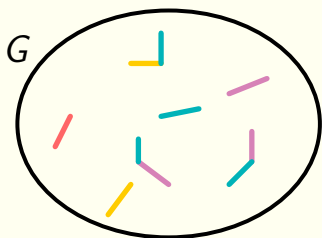
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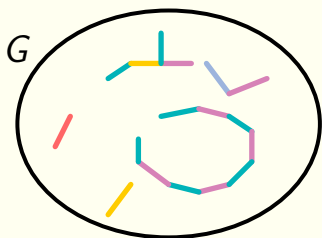


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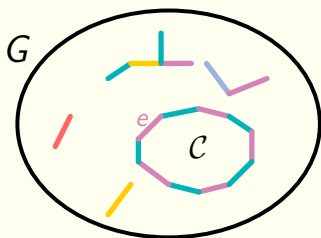


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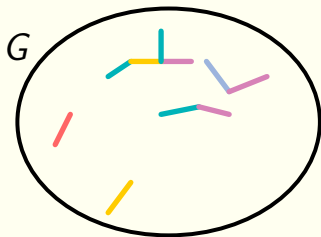


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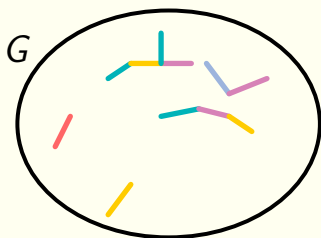


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- We record in a compact way what happens during the algorithm.

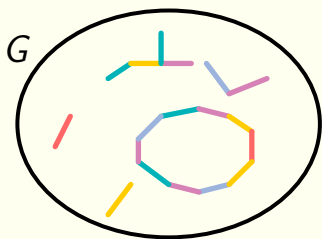


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-
```

Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
- Assume the algorithm is still running after t steps. \rightarrow **bad scenario**
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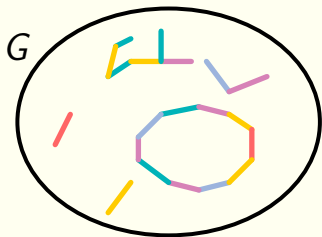


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...
```


Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
- Assume the algorithm is still running after t steps. \rightarrow **bad scenario**
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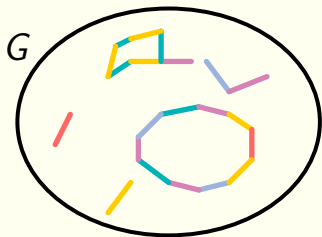


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-
```

Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
- Assume the algorithm is still running after t steps. → **bad scenario**
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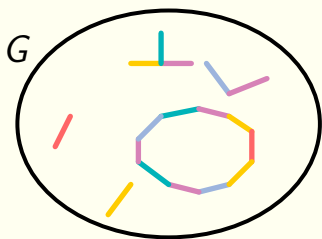


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:Cycle  $C'$  is uncolored
```

Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
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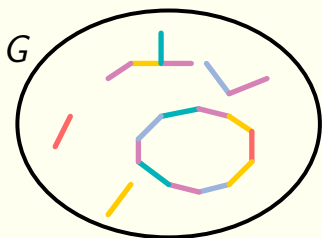


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:Cycle  $C'$  is uncolored
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Recording

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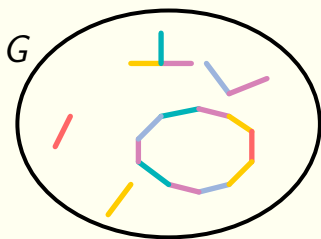


Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:Cycle  $C'$  is uncolored  
278:-  
...
```

Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
- Assume the algorithm is still running after t steps. \rightarrow **bad scenario**
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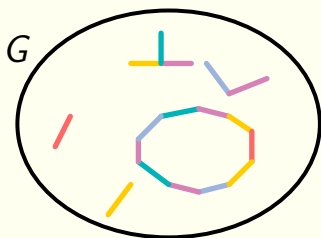
Final partial coloring Φ_t

Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:Cycle  $C'$  is uncolored  
278:-  
...  
t:-
```

Recording

- Execution determined by set of drawn colors : **scenario**
- Assume the algorithm is still running after t steps. \rightarrow **bad scenario**
- We record in a compact way what happens during the algorithm.



Final partial coloring Φ_t

Record

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:Cycle  $C$  is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:Cycle  $C'$  is uncolored  
278:-  
...  
t:-
```

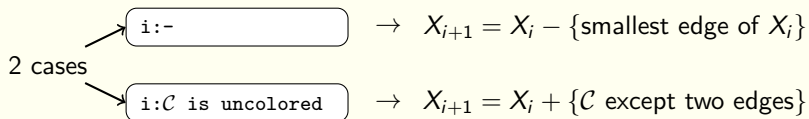
1 record + 1 final partial coloring = 1 bad scenario

Rewrite the history I

- X_i : set of uncolored edges after step i
- reading of the record to get X_i :
 - ▶ $X_0 = E$

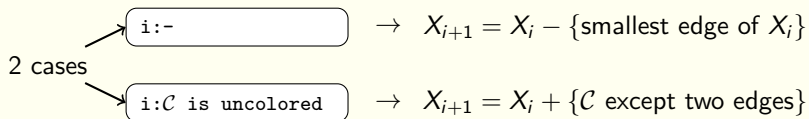
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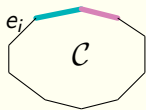
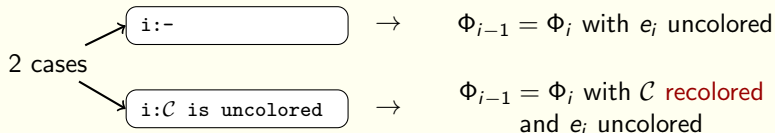
With the record, we can find the edge e_i which is colored at step i .

Rewrite the history II: partial colorings

- Φ_i : partial coloring after step i
- **Inverse** reading of the record to get Φ_j :
 - ▶ Φ_t is known

Rewrite the history II: partial colorings

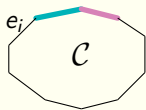
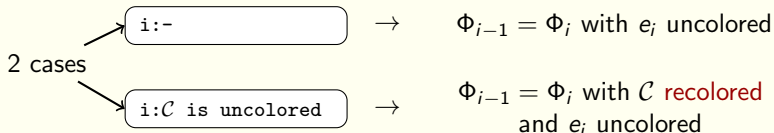
- Φ_i : partial coloring after step i
- **Inverse** reading of the record to get Φ_i :
 - ▶ Φ_t is known
 - ▶ Step i :



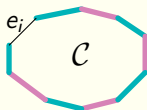
Step i

Rewrite the history II: partial colorings

- Φ_i : partial coloring after step i
- **Inverse** reading of the record to get Φ_i :
 - ▶ Φ_t is known
 - ▶ Step i :



Step i

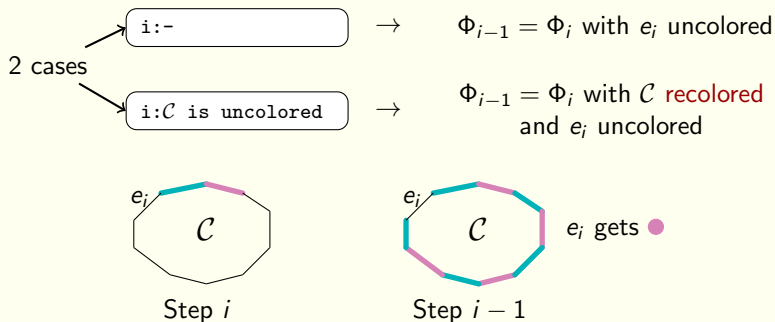


Step $i - 1$

e_i gets ●

Rewrite the history II: partial colorings

- Φ_i : partial coloring after step i
- **Inverse** reading of the record to get Φ_i :
 - ▶ Φ_t is known
 - ▶ Step i :



With Φ_t and the record, we can find the partial colorings and the scenario.

Rewrite the history - Summary

1. Top-down reading \rightarrow set of colored edges at each step.

```
1:-  
2:-  
...  
17:-  
18:C is uncolored  
19:-  
...  
276:-  
277:C' is uncolored  
278:-  
...  
t:-
```

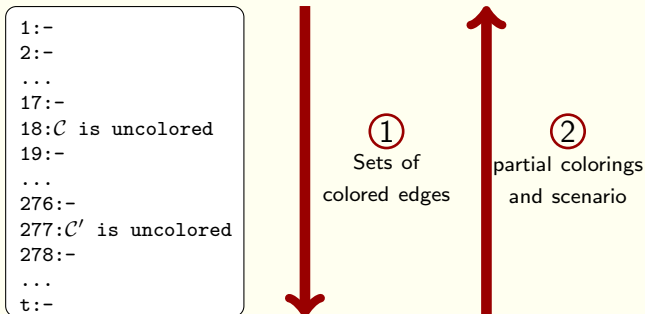


①

Sets of
colored edges

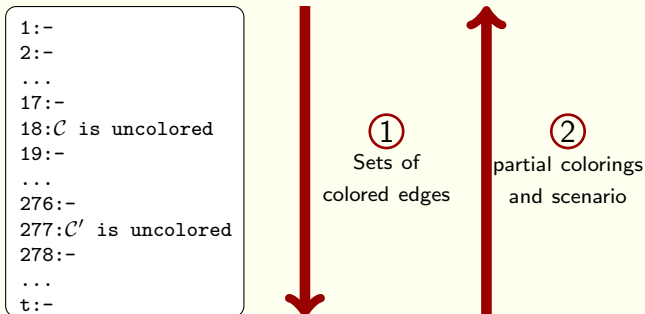
Rewrite the history - Summary

1. **Top-down reading** → set of colored edges at each step.
2. **Buttum-up reading** → partial coloring at each step and **scenario**.



Rewrite the history - Summary

1. Top-down reading \rightarrow set of colored edges at each step.
2. Buttum-up reading \rightarrow partial coloring at each step and **scenario**.




\Rightarrow 1 record + 1 final partial coloring = 1 bad scenario

Summary

1 record +1 partial coloring = 1 bad scenario

Summary

1 record + 1 partial coloring = 1 bad scenario

$$\leq (4\Delta + 1)^m$$


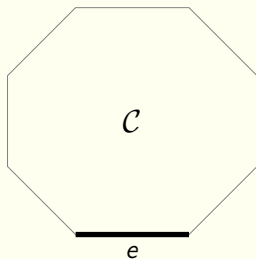
Summary

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 1 \text{ record} & + & 1 \text{ partial coloring} & = & 1 \text{ bad scenario} \\ \nearrow & & \uparrow & & \nwarrow \\ ? & & \leq (4\Delta + 1)^m & & ? \end{array}$$

How many possible records ?

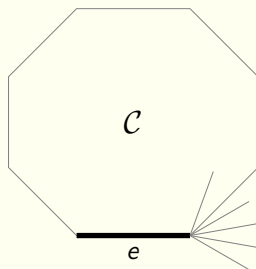
Compact records of cycles

- We know one edge e of \mathcal{C} .



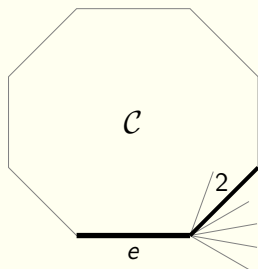
Compact records of cycles

- We know one edge e of \mathcal{C} .



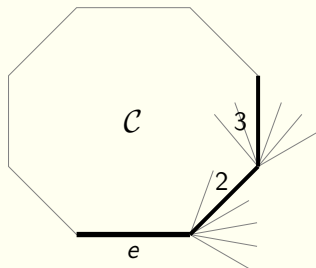
Compact records of cycles

- We know one edge e of \mathcal{C} .



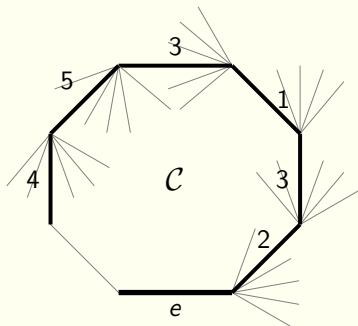
Compact records of cycles

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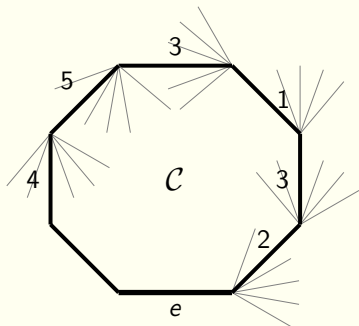
Compact records of cycles

- We know one edge e of \mathcal{C} .
- No choice for the last edge



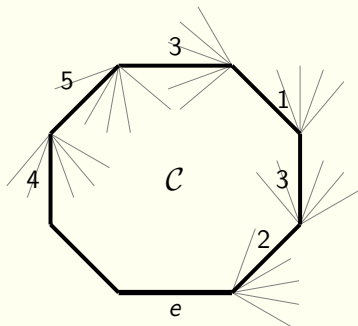
Compact records of cycles

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Compact records of cycles

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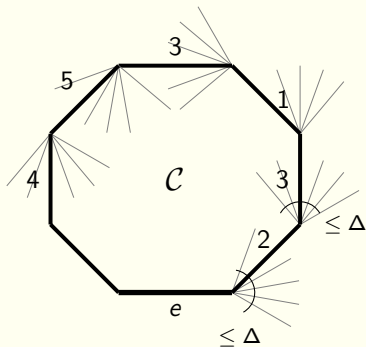
$i:\mathcal{C}$ is uncolored

\Leftrightarrow

$i:231354$

Compact records of cycles

- We know one edge e of \mathcal{C} .
- No choice for the last edge



$i:\mathcal{C}$ is uncolored

\Leftrightarrow

$i:231354$

- Cycle coded by a word on $\{1, \dots, \Delta\}^{2k-2}$ where $2k$ is the length of \mathcal{C} .

Number of records

Record (- , - , ..., - , 231354 , - , ..., - , 4213 , - , ..., -)

Number of records

Record ($-$, $-$, ..., $-$, 231354 , $-$, ..., $-$, 4213 , $-$, ..., $-$)

 ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ ↓

 0 0 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

Number of records

Record $(-, -, \dots, -, 231354, -, \dots, -, 4213, -, \dots, -)$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow

0 0 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

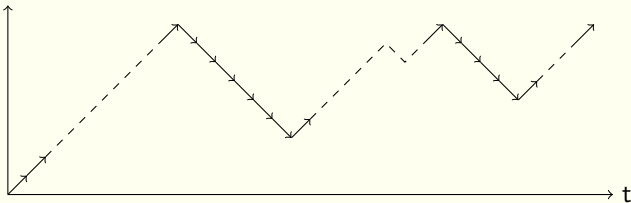
Number of colored edges

0 \leftrightarrow \nearrow :

an edge is colored

1 \leftrightarrow \searrow :

an edge is uncolored



Number of records

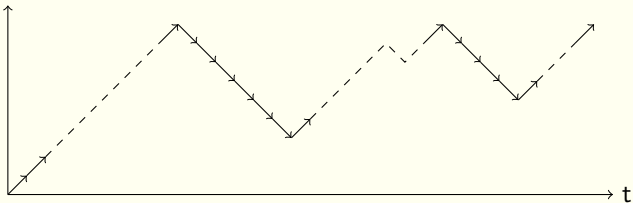
Record $(-, -, \dots, -, 231354, -, \dots, -, 4213, -, \dots, -)$

\downarrow \downarrow \dots \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
 0 0 \dots 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

Number of colored edges

0 \leftrightarrow \nearrow :
 an edge is colored

1 \leftrightarrow \searrow :
 an edge is uncolored



Partial Dyck word of length $\leq 2t$ and descents of even size .

Number of records

Record $(-, -, \dots, -, 231354, -, \dots, -, 4213, -, \dots, -)$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow

0 0 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

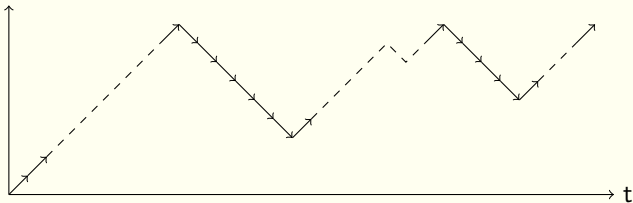
Number of colored edges

0 \leftrightarrow \nearrow :

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1 \leftrightarrow \searrow :

an edge is uncolored



Partial Dyck word of length $\leq 2t$ and descents of even size > 2 .

Number of records

Record $(-, -, \dots, -, 231354, -, \dots, -, 4213, -, \dots, -)$

\downarrow \downarrow \dots \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow

0 0 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

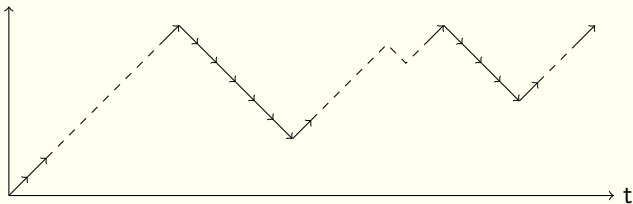
Number of colored edges

$0 \leftrightarrow \nearrow :$

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Partial Dyck word of length $\leq 2t$ and descents of even size > 2 .

\rightarrow Number of such words : $2^t / t^{3/2}$

Number of records

Record $(-, -, \dots, -, 231354, -, \dots, -, 4213, -, \dots, -)$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
 0 0 0 0111111 0 0 01111 0 0

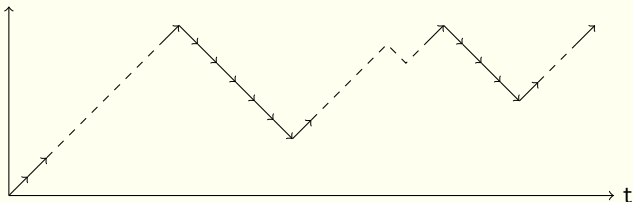
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Partial Dyck word of length $\leq 2t$ and descents of even size > 2 .

\rightarrow Number of such words : $2^t / t^{3/2}$

\rightarrow Number of records : $(2\Delta)^t / t^{3/2}$

End of the proof

1 record + 1 partial coloring = 1 bad scenario

$$(4\Delta + 1)^m$$


End of the proof

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & 1 \text{ record} & + 1 \text{ partial coloring} & = 1 \text{ bad scenario} \\ & \nearrow & \uparrow & \\ (2\Delta)^t / t^{3/2} & & (4\Delta + 1)^m & \end{array}$$

End of the proof

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- Number of scenarios: $(2\Delta)^t$
- Number of bad scenarios: $\frac{(4\Delta + 1)^m (2\Delta)^t}{t^{3/2}} = o((2\Delta)^t)$

End of the proof

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- Number of scenarios: $(2\Delta)^t$
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\Rightarrow For t large enough, there are good scenarios.

\Leftrightarrow The algorithm stops with nonzero probability !

\Leftrightarrow There is a coloring in 4Δ colors.

Algorithmic aspect

- To have a small probability of a bad event in t steps, we should have:

$$\frac{\text{bad scenarios}}{\text{all scenarios}} = \frac{(4\Delta + 1)^m (2\Delta)^t / t^{3/2}}{(2\Delta)^t} < \delta$$

Equivalently:

$$t^{3/2} > \frac{(4\Delta + 1)^m}{\delta}$$

→ t can be exponential in m .

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- But if we have $4\Delta + 1$ colors :

$$\frac{\text{bad scenarios}}{\text{all scenarios}} = \frac{(4\Delta + 2)^m (2\Delta)^t / t^{3/2}}{((2\Delta + 1)^t)} < \delta$$

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- But if we have $4\Delta + 1$ colors :

$$\frac{\text{bad scenarios}}{\text{all scenarios}} = \frac{(4\Delta + 2)^m (2\Delta)^t / t^{3/2}}{((2\Delta + 1)^t)} < \delta$$

→ t is polynomial in m .

With larger girth

Girth: size of the smallest cycle in G .

With the same method, we get better bounds if the girth is $\geq \ell$

\Leftrightarrow All the uncolored cycles have size at least ℓ

\Leftrightarrow All the descents in the Dyck word have size $2k$ for some $k \geq \ell/2$

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\Leftrightarrow All the descents in the Dyck word have size $2k$ for some $k \geq \ell/2$

There are fewer Dyck words !

→ Analytic combinatorics and generating function to count Dyck Words.

Conclusion

Entropy compression ?

- Input: large random vector
- Output: smaller record

Works well since :

- we can remove a lot of letters/colors
→ add entropy;
- while being able to recover the sequence/coloring with a small record
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Thanks !