

Polowanie na problemy Erdősa

25 VIII 2025

Problems have always been an essential part of my mathematical life. A well chosen problem can isolate an essential difficulty in a particular area, serving as a benchmark against which progress in this area can be measured. An innocent looking problem often gives no hint as to its true nature. It might be like a 'marshmallow,' serving as a tasty tidbit supplying a few moments of fleeting enjoyment. Or it might be like an 'acorn,' requiring deep and subtle new insights from which a mighty oak can develop.



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All

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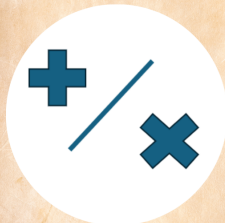


ERDŐS NEWS



VOLUME 1, EDITION 10 | MOST WANTED PROBLEMS | 1983

WANTED



AGE: 42

ORIGIN:
ADDITIVE
COMBINATORICS



PROBLEM SUM I ILOCZYNÓW



\$250 REWARD

$$A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}, |A| < +\infty$$

- zbiór sum: $A + A = \{a_1 + a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$,
- zbiór iloczynów: $AA = \{a_1 a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$,

$$A + A = \{a_1 + a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$AA = \{a_1 a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$A = \{5, 11, 17, 23\}$$

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$$A = \{\mathbf{5}, 11, 17, \mathbf{23}\}$$

$$A + A = \{28 \quad \quad \quad \}$$

$$AA = \{187, 115 \quad \quad \quad \}$$

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$$A = \{5, 11, 17, 23\}$$

$$A + A = \{28, 34, 10, 16, 22, 40, 46\}$$

$$AA = \{187, 115, 289, 25, 55, 85, 121, 253, 391, 529\}$$

$$A + A = \{a_1 + a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$AA = \{a_1 a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$A = \{5, 11, 17, 23\}, |A| = 4$$

$$A + A = \{10, 16, 22, 28, 34, 40, 46\}$$

$$|A + A| = 7$$

$$AA = \{25, 55, 85, 115, 121, 187, 253, 289, 391, 529\}$$

$$|AA| = 10$$

$$A + A = \{a_1 + a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$AA = \{a_1 a_2 : a_1, a_2 \in A\}$$

$$B = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}, |B| = 4$$

$$B + B = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16\}$$

$$|B + B| = 10$$

$$BB = \{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64\}$$

$$|BB| = 7$$

Zbiory sum i iloczynów

Jak duży może być zbiór sum?

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$$B + B = \{2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 16\}$$

$$|B + B| = 10 = \binom{4 + 1}{2}$$

Jak duży może być zbiór sum?

$$A = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}, a_1 < a_2 < \dots < a_n$$

$$a_1 + a_1 < a_1 + a_2 < \dots < a_1 + a_n < a_2 + a_n < \dots < a_n + a_n$$

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$$a_1 + a_1 < a_1 + a_2 < \dots < a_1 + a_n < a_2 + a_n < \dots < a_n + a_n$$

$$|A + A| \geqslant 2|A| - 1$$

Jak duży może być zbiór sum?

$$|A + A| \geq 2|A| - 1$$

$$A = \{5, 11, 17, 23\}, |A| = 4$$

$$A + A = \{10, 16, 22, 28, 34, 40, 46\}$$

$$|A + A| = 7 = 2 \cdot 4 - 1$$

Fakt

Jeżeli $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$, $|A| < \infty$ i $|A + A| = 2|A| - 1$, to A jest ciągiem arytmetycznym.

Twierdzenie (Freiman)

Jeżeli $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$, $|A| < \infty$ i $|A + A| \leq 3|A| - 4$, to zbiór A jest zawarty w ciągu arytmetycznym o długości $|A + A| - |A| + 1$.

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Moc zbioru iloczynów

Jak duży może być zbiór iloczynów?

$$2|A| - 1 \leq |AA| \leq \binom{|A| + 1}{2} = \frac{|A|^2 + |A|}{2} \text{ (dla } A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_{>0})$$

- $B = \{1, 2, 4, 8\}, |B| = 4$

$$BB = \{1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64\}$$

$$|BB| = 7 = 2 \cdot 4 - 1$$

- $A = \{5, 11, 17, 23\}, |A| = 4$

$$AA = \{25, 55, 85, 115, 121, 187, 253, 289, 391, 529\}$$

$$|AA| = 10 = \binom{4 + 1}{2}$$

Hipoteza (Erdős, 250\$)

Niech $\varepsilon > 0$. Wówczas dla dowolnego zbioru skończonego $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$

$$\max\{|A + A|, |AA|\} \gg_{\varepsilon} |A|^{2-\varepsilon}.$$

$$\forall A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}, |A| < +\infty \max\{|A + A|, |AA|\} \gg_{\varepsilon} |A|^{1+c-o(1)}.$$

Co wiemy o c ?

- Erdős, Szemerédi, 1983: $c > 0$,
- Nathanson, 1997: $c = \frac{1}{31}$,
- Elekes, 1997: $c = \frac{1}{4}$,
- Solymosi, 2009: $c = \frac{1}{3}$.

In this section we obtain a result in the special case of sets of small diameter, and in the next section we show that the main theorem reduces to this special case.

Lemma 1. *Let B be a nonempty finite set of positive integers such that*
$$\max(B') \leq 2\min(B).$$

Then

$$|B'_0(B)| \geq \left(\frac{|B|}{384}\right)^{15/15}.$$

Proof. Let $|B| = k$. If $k < 384$, the inequality is trivial, so we can assume that
$$k \geq 384 = 2^5 \cdot 3^2.$$

Then

$$(k/12)^{1/3} \geq 2.$$

Let

$$t = \left\lceil \left(\frac{k}{19}\right)^{1/3} \right\rceil.$$

ON SUMS AND PRODUCTS OF INTEGERS

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Then

$$t \geq \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{k}{12}\right)^{1/3} = \left(\frac{k}{384}\right)^{1/3}.$$

Since

$$t \geq 19t^3,$$

it follows that

(1)

$$\left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil \geq 19t^4.$$

Let $B = \{b_1, \dots, b_k\}$, where

$$1 \leq b_1 < b_2 < \dots < b_k \leq 39t.$$

For $i = 1, 2, \dots, k/t$, let

$$B_i = \{b_{(i-1)t+1}, b_{(i-1)t+2}, \dots, b_{it}\} \subset B$$

and

$$d_i = b_i - b_{(i-1)t+1}.$$

Choose i_0 so that

$$d_{i_0} = \min\{d_i : i = 1, \dots, k/t\}.$$

and let

$$D' = d_{i_0}$$

and

$$D'' = d_{i_0}.$$

Suppose that

$$1 \leq i < j \leq \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil \text{ and } j - i \geq 3.$$

If

$$B_i, B_j \subset B^* \text{ and } B_i \subset B_k, B_j \subset B_k$$

then

$$x'' - b'_j = b'_i < x''$$

and

$$x' = b'_j - b'_i = d_{j-i} + d_{i+1} + d_{i+2} + \dots + d_{j-1} > 2D'' > 0.$$

It follows that

$$b'_j + b'_i \neq b'_k + b'_k$$

Suppose that

$$b'_j + b'_i = b'_k + b'_k$$

Since $b'_i < b'_j$, it follows that $b'_j > b'_k$ and so $x'' > 0$. Since

$$x'_j < x'_i \leq 20t < 20t^3,$$

it follows that

$$b'_j + b'_i = b'_k + b'_k \Rightarrow (b'_j + b'_i) - x'_j = b'_k + b'_k - x'_j = b'_k + b'_k - x'_j = x'' > 0.$$

and so

$$0 < x'' = x'' - x'_j = b'_k + b'_k - x'_j \leq b'_k (9x'' - x) \leq b'_k (9x'' - x) < 0,$$

which is absurd. Therefore,

$$b'_j + b'_i \neq b'_k + b'_k.$$

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MELVYN B. NATHANSON

It follows that

(2)

$$(B' - B'_j) \cap (B' - B_i) = \emptyset$$

and

(3)

$$(B' - B_j) \cap (B' - B_i) = \emptyset$$

for every pair (i, j) of integers such that $j - i \geq 3$.

We shall consider only the sets $B_1, B_4, B_7, \dots$, that is, the sets B_i such that $i \equiv 1 \pmod{3}$. There are at least

$$\frac{1}{3} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil$$

such sets. Let

$$0 < \beta < 1$$

and

$$\beta = k/3 < 1/3.$$

Let

$$E(B', B_i) = (B' + B_i) \cup (B' - B_i),$$

and let

$$i_1 = \{i \equiv 1 \pmod{3} : |E(B', B_i)| < t^{1-\beta}\}$$

and

$$i_2 = \{i \equiv 1 \pmod{3} : |E(B', B_i)| \geq t^{1-\beta}\}.$$

Then

(4)

$$|i_1| - |i_2| \geq \frac{1}{3} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil.$$

Suppose that

$$|i_1| \geq \frac{1}{6} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil.$$

Let $i \in i_1$. For $m \in B' - B_i$, let $\rho(m)$ denote the number of representations of m in the form $b' + b'_i$, where $b' \in B'$ and $b'_i \in B_i$. Choose m' such that

$$\rho(m') = \max\{\rho(m) : m \in B' - B_i\}.$$

Since $|B'| = |B_i| = t$, it follows that

$$t^2 = \sum_{m \in B' - B_i} \rho(m) \leq \rho(m') \cdot |B' - B_i| < \rho(m') t^{1+\beta},$$

and so

$$\rho(m') > t^{1-\beta}.$$

For $j = 1, \dots, \rho(m')$, choose $b'_j \in B'$ and $b'_i \in B_i$ such that

(5)

$$b'_j + b'_i = m'$$

and $b'_j \neq b'_{j_1}$ for $j_1 \neq j$. There are $\rho(m')^2$ expressions of the form

$$b'_j + b'_i \in B' + B_i$$

where $\beta = 1, \dots, \rho(m')$. Since $i \in i_1$ and $\beta < 1/3$, it follows that

$$\rho(m')^2 > t^{1-3\beta} > t^{1+\beta} > |B' + B_i|,$$

and so there exist $b'_j, b'_{j_1} \in B'$ and $b'_i, b'_{i_1} \in B_i$ such that $b'_j \neq b'_{j_1}$ and

(6)

$$b'_j + b'_i = b'_{j_1} + b'_{i_1}.$$

It follows from (5) that also

$$b'_{j_1} + b'_{i_1} = b'_j + b'_i.$$

(7) What we have just shown is that for every $i \in i_1$ there exist four positive integers $b'_j, b'_{j_1}, b'_i, b'_{i_1} \in B'$ and two positive integers $b'_i, b'_{i_1} \in B_i$ that satisfy equations (6) and (7). However, given any positive integers $b'_j, b'_{j_1}, b'_i, b'_{i_1}, b'_i, b'_{i_1}$, equations (6) and (7) have at most one solution in integers b'_j, b'_{j_1} . Since the number of quadruples of elements of B' is exactly t^4 , it follows from (1) that if $|i_1| \geq (1/6)k/t$, then

$$t^4 \geq |i_1| \geq \frac{1}{6} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil \geq 2t^4,$$

which is absurd. Therefore,

$$|i_1| < \frac{1}{6} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil,$$

and so, by (4), we have

$$|i_2| \geq \frac{1}{6} \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil.$$

Let

$$n \in \bigcup_{i \in i_2} E(B', B_i).$$

It follows from (2) and (3) that n belongs to at most two of the sets $E(B', B_i)$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} |E(B')| &\geq \sum_{i \in i_2} |E(B', B_i)| \geq (1/2) \sum_{i \in i_2} |E(B', B_i)| \\ &\geq (1/2) |i_2| t^{1+\beta} \geq (1/12) \left\lceil \frac{k}{t} \right\rceil t^{1+\beta} \geq (1/12) (12^{1/3} t)^{1+\beta} \\ &= t^{1+\beta} \geq \left(\frac{k}{384}\right)^{1+3/5} = \left(\frac{k}{384}\right)^{16/15}. \end{aligned}$$

Since this holds for all $\theta < 1$, we obtain

$$|E(B')| \geq \left(\frac{k}{384}\right)^{16/15}.$$

This completes the proof of the lemma.

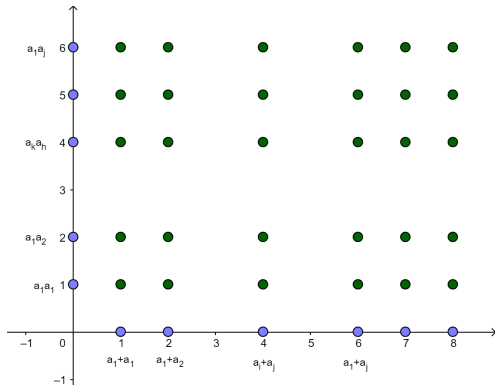


Twierdzenie (Szemerédi, Trotter)

Niech t i N będą dodatnimi liczbami całkowitymi. Ponadto, niech $\mathcal{P}$ będzie zbiorem N różnych punktów na płaszczyźnie, a $l_1, l_2, \dots, l_M$ będą pewnymi różnymi prostymi. Jeśli każda prosta e_i zawiera co najmniej t punktów z $\mathcal{P}$, to

$$M \leq C \frac{N^2}{t^3}.$$

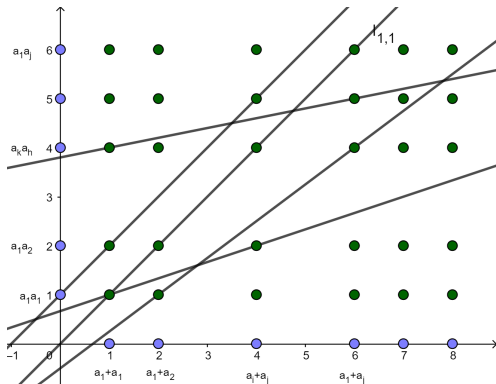
$$M \leq C \frac{N^2}{t^3} \quad (M - \text{liczba prostych}, N - \text{liczba punktów}, t - \text{liczba incydencji})$$



$$\mathcal{P} = (A + A) \times (AA)$$

$$N = |A + A| |AA|$$

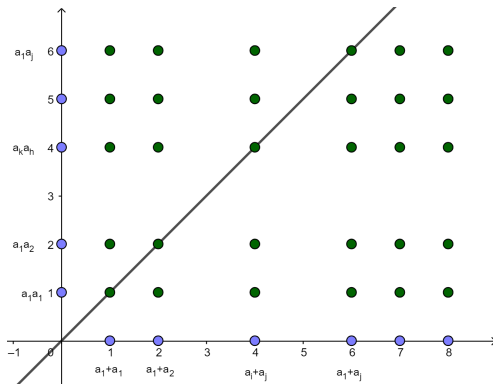
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$$\forall 1 \leq i, j \leq |A| \quad l_{i,j} : y = a_i(x - a_j)$$

$$M = |A|^2$$

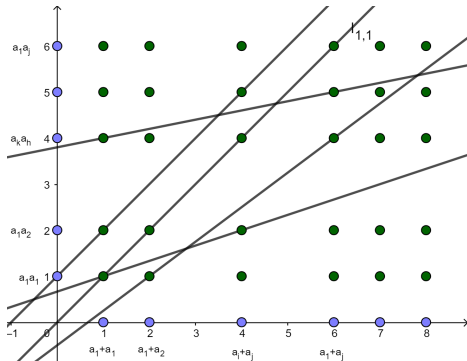
$$M \leq C \frac{N^2}{t^3} \quad (M - \text{liczba prostych}, N - \text{liczba punktów}, t - \text{liczba incydencji})$$



$$\forall 1 \leq k \leq |A| \quad a_i(a_k + a_j - a_j) = a_i a_k \Rightarrow (a_k + a_j) \times (a_i a_k) \in l_{i,j}$$

$$t = |A|$$

$$M \leq C \frac{N^2}{t^3} \quad (M - \text{liczba prostych}, N - \text{liczba punktów}, t - \text{liczba incydencji})$$



$$N = |A + A||AA|, M = |A|^2, t = |A|$$

$$|A|^2 \leq C \cdot \frac{(|A + A||AA|)^2}{|A|^3} \Rightarrow |A + A||AA| \gg |A|^{5/2}$$

Energia multiplikatywna:

$$E(A) = |\{(a, b, c, d) \in A^4 : ab = cd\}|$$

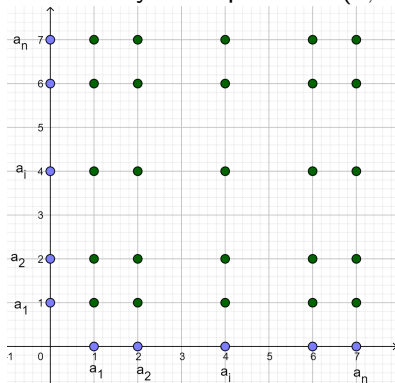
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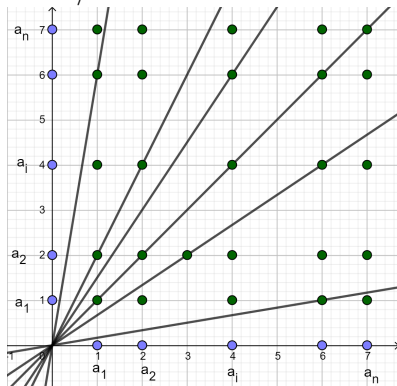
$$\begin{aligned} E(A) &= \sum_{s \in AA} |\{(a, b) \in A^2 : ab = s\}|^2 \\ &\geq \frac{1}{|AA|} \left(\sum_{s \in AA} |\{(a, b) \in A^2 : ab = s\}| \right)^2 = \frac{|A|^4}{|AA|} \end{aligned}$$

Założmy, że $A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$.

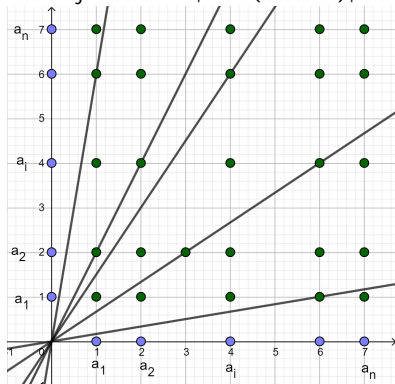
Rozważamy zbiór punktów $(a, b) \in A^2$:



Rozważamy zbiór punktów $(a, b) \in A^2$ i proste $l_s : y = sx$ dla $s \in A/A$:



Dzielimy otrzymane proste na klasy $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_m$ takie, że
 $I_i \in C_j \Leftrightarrow 2^j \leq |I_i \cap (A \times A)| < 2^{j+1}$ ($m \leq \lceil \log |A| \rceil$).



Dzielimy otrzymane proste na klasy $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_m$ takie, że $l_i \in C_j \Leftrightarrow 2^i \leq |l_i \cap (A \times A)| < 2^{i+1}$ ($m \leq \lceil \log |A| \rceil$).

$$\begin{aligned} E(A) &= \sum_{s \in A/A} |\{(a, b) \in A^2 : a/b = s\}|^2 = \sum_{s \in A/A} |l_s \cap (A \times A)|^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^m \sum_{l_s \in C_i} |l_s \cap (A \times A)|^2 \end{aligned}$$

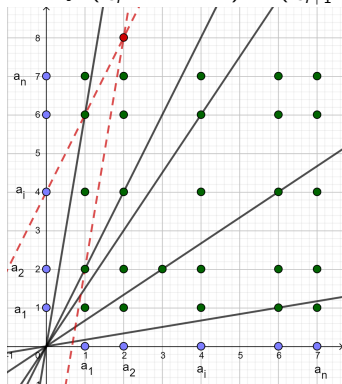
Stąd istnieje indeks K taki, że

$$\frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} \leq \sum_{l_s \in C_K} |l_s \cap (A \times A)|^2.$$

Założmy, że $C_K = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_l\}$ i $s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_l$. Wówczas:

$$\frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} < l 2^{2K+2}.$$

Założmy, że $C_K = \{s_1, s_2, \dots, s_l\}$ i $s_1 < s_2 < \dots < s_l$ i rozważmy zbiory $(I_{s_i} \cap A \times A) + (I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A)$:



Zbiory te są parami rozłączne dla różnych parametrów s_i i

$$|(I_{s_i} \cap A \times A) + (I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A)| = |I_{s_i} \cap A \times A| |I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A|.$$

$$l \cdot 2^{2K} \leq \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^l (I_{s_i} \cap A \times A) + (I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A) \right| \leq |A + A|^2$$

$$l \cdot 2^{2K} \leq \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^l (I_{s_i} \cap A \times A) + (I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A) \right| \leq |A + A|^2$$

$$\frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} < l 2^{2K+2} \Rightarrow \frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} \leq 4|A + A|^2$$

$$l \cdot 2^{2K} \leq \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^l (I_{s_i} \cap A \times A) + (I_{s_{i+1}} \cap A \times A) \right| \leq |A + A|^2$$

$$\frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} < l 2^{2K+2} \Rightarrow \frac{E(A)}{\lceil \log |A| \rceil} \leq 4|A + A|^2$$

$$\frac{|A|^4}{|AA|} \leq E(A) \Rightarrow \frac{|A|^4}{4 \lceil \log |A| \rceil} \leq |A + A|^2 |AA|$$

$$\forall A \subseteq \mathbb{Z}, |A| < +\infty \max\{|A + A|, |AA|\} \gg_{\varepsilon} |A|^{1+c-o(1)}.$$

Co wiemy o c ?

- Erdős, Szemerédi, 1983: $c > 0$,
- Nathanson, 1997: $c = \frac{1}{31}$,
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- Solymosi, 2009: $c = \frac{1}{3}$,
- Bloom, 2025: $c = \frac{1250}{951} \approx 0,33543$.

Problemy pokrewne



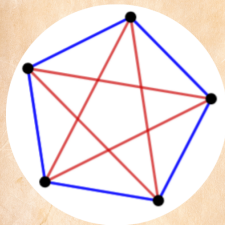


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LICZBY RAMSEYA



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Frank Plumpton Ramsey



Frank Plumpton Ramsey
(1903-1930)

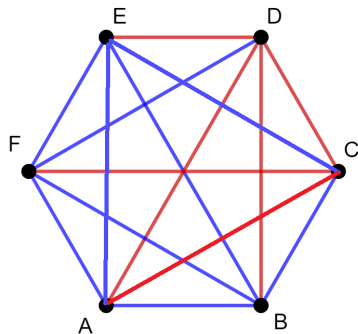
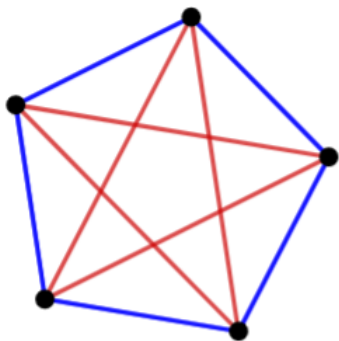
[Verse 1] Born in 1903, learning the world's mystery
Seeing patterns, probability
Yet gripped by his generation's hold
Gazing at the stars above, nothing unfolds

[Verse 2] At 27, walking the path of life
Filled with strife, the end in sight
Each step a mystery, joy and love intertwined
Sent from above, but pain and loss find

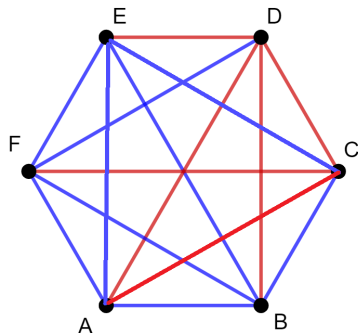
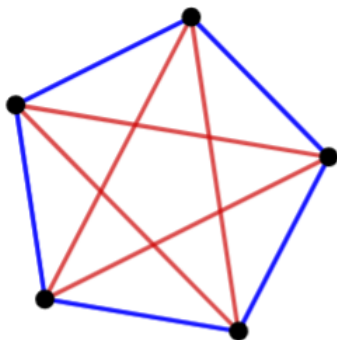
[Chorus] Endless stride against the tide
Never bending, always in his stride
Through mystery, pain, and love, he goes
Searching for answers, as the story unfolds

„A song for Ramsey”, Sicong
Meng, Sabrina Nguyen, Gary Tse
[https://www.sfu.ca/~vjungic/
RamseyProjects/book-1.html](https://www.sfu.ca/~vjungic/RamseyProjects/book-1.html)

Liczby Ramseya



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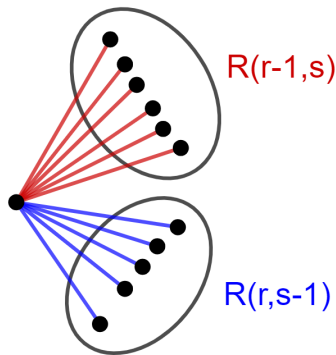
Liczbą Ramseya $R(r, s)$ nazywamy najmniejszą liczbę naturalną n taką, że każde kolorowanie grafu pełnego K_n zawiera czerwony podgraf K_r lub niebieski podgraf K_s .

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$$\forall_{r,s \geq 2} R(r,s) \leq R(r-1,s) + R(r,s-1)$$

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$$R(k, k) \leq \binom{2k-2}{k-1} \wedge k! \sim k^k e^{-k} \sqrt{2\pi k} \Rightarrow R(k, k) \leq c \frac{4^k}{\sqrt{k}}$$

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- $\mathbb{P}(A_S) = 2 \cdot \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\binom{k}{2}}$. Stąd

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_S A_S\right) \leq \binom{n}{k} \cdot 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}} < 1.$$

Problem (Erdős, 100/250/1000\$)

Znajdź granicę $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} R(k, k)^{1/k}$.

$$\sqrt{2} \leq \liminf_{k \rightarrow \infty} R(k, k)^{1/k} \leq \limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} R(k, k)^{1/k} \leq 4$$

Shearer, 1982: $R(k, k) \geq k \cdot \sqrt{2}^k \left(\frac{1}{e} + o(1) \right)$

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- $\mathbb{E}(X) = \sum_S \mathbb{E}(I_S) = \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$. Zatem $\exists_\omega X(\omega) \leq \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}$.

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- Dla kolorowania wyznaczonego przez ω usuwamy po jednym wierzchołku z każdego monochromatycznego zbioru S mocy k .

$$R(k, k) \geq n - \binom{n}{k} 2^{1-\binom{k}{2}}.$$

- Erdős, 1947: $R(k, k) \geq k \cdot \sqrt{2}^k \left(\frac{1}{e\sqrt{2}} + o(1) \right)$,
- Shearer, 1982: $R(k, k) \geq k \cdot \sqrt{2}^k \left(\frac{1}{e} + o(1) \right)$,
- Spencer, 1975: $R(k, k) \geq k \cdot \sqrt{2}^k \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}}{e} + o(1) \right)$

- Erdős, Szekeres, 1935: $R(k, k) \leq c \frac{4^k}{\sqrt{k}}$,
- Campos, Griffiths, Morris, Sahasrabudhe, 2023:
 $R(k, k) \leq (4 - \frac{1}{128})^k$,
- Gupta, Ndiaye, Norin, Wei, 2024: $R(k, k) \leq (3,7992\dots)^k$.

Problemy pokrewne



Problem Erdős

<https://www.erdosproblems.com>

OPEN - \$10000

Let $r_k(N)$ be the largest possible size of a subset of $\{1, \dots, N\}$ that does not contain any non-trivial k -term arithmetic progression. Prove an asymptotic formula for $r_k(N)$.

#142 [E:40][E:61][E:97]

additive combinatorics, arithmetic progressions

OPEN - \$500

Does every set of n distinct points in $\mathbb{R}^2$ determine $\gg n/\sqrt{\log n}$ many distinct distances?

#89 [E:67][E:61][E:61][E:62][E:63][E:65][E:60][E:62][E:65][E:67][E:67][E:67]

geometry, distances

OPEN - \$500

Let the van der Waerden number $W(k)$ be such that whenever $N \geq W(k)$ and $\{1, \dots, N\}$ is 2-coloured there must exist a monochromatic k -term arithmetic progression. Improve the bounds for $W(k)$ - for example, prove that $W(k)^{1/k} \rightarrow \infty$.

#138 [E:67][E:61][E:73][E:74][E:75][E:77][E:77][E:77][E:77][E:77][E:77][E:77]

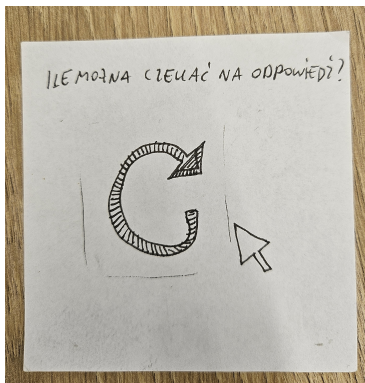
additive combinatorics

OPEN - \$78

Let $f(n)$ be minimal such that in $(n, n + f(n))$ there exist distinct integers $a_1, \dots, a_n$ such that $k \mid a_k$ for all $1 \leq k \leq n$. Obtain an asymptotic formula for $f(n)$.

#718 [E:600][E:62]

number theory



Agnieszka Cioch, „Znajdź parę”