

Separating complexity classes of LCL problems on grids

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ASL Meeting, May 2025

Outline

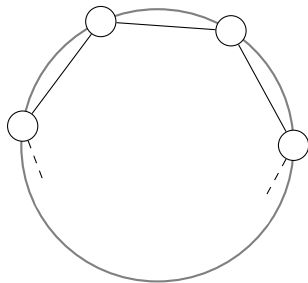
Descriptive Combinatorics

Complexity classes of LCLs

Connections with other areas

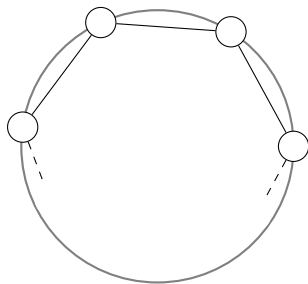
Toast

Example 1: A coloring problem on the circle



- Consider the graph on S^1 where two points are adjacent if they are 1 radian apart. Each connected component is a bi-infinite path.

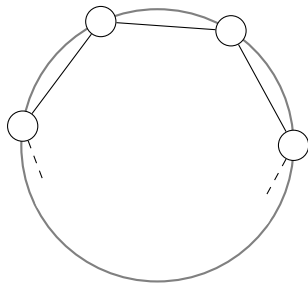
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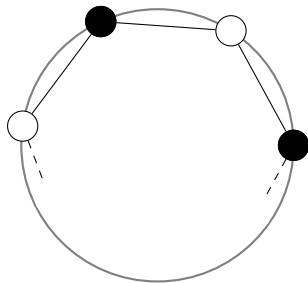
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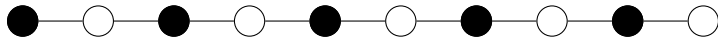
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- ▶ Let's try and *properly color* the graph: assign colors to vertices so that adjacent vertices get different colors.



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- ▶ Let's try and *properly color* the graph: assign colors to vertices so that adjacent vertices get different colors.
- ▶ Working on one component at a time, we see that 2 colors are enough.



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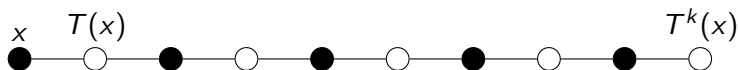


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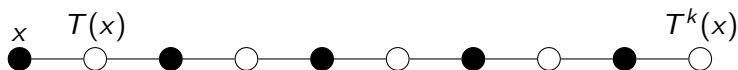


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- ▶ Let $T : S^1 \rightarrow S^1$ be rotation by 1 radian.
- ▶ Note $T(A) = B$, $T(B) = A$.
- ▶ But by irrationality, there is some odd k with $T^k(I) \cap I \neq \emptyset$. Since T is a homeomorphism, $T^k(A) \cap A$ is comeager in this interval, but $T^k(A) \cap A = B \cap A = \emptyset$.

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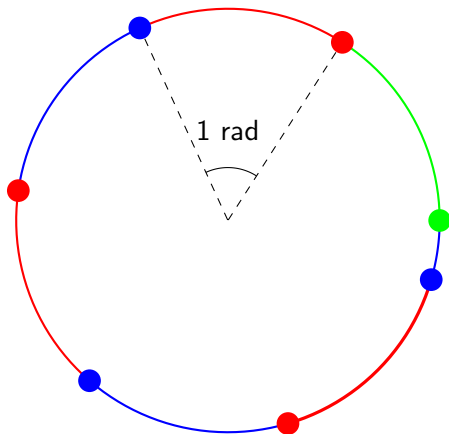
Proposition (Kechris-Solecki-Todorčević '99)

This graph has a Borel 3-coloring.

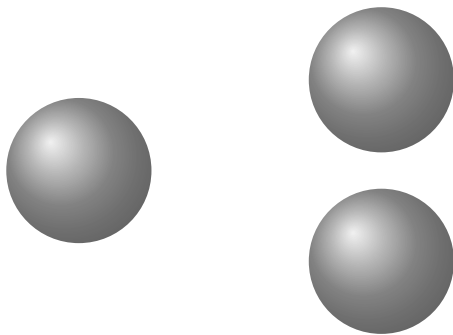
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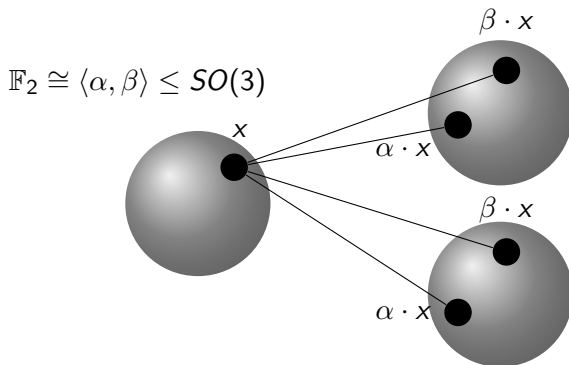


Example 2: The Banach-Tarski paradox



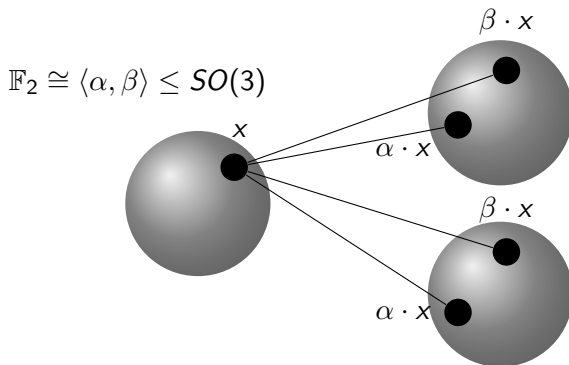
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Alternatively, the graph above has a Borel matching which covers a comeager set of points.

Example 3: Tarski's circle squaring problem

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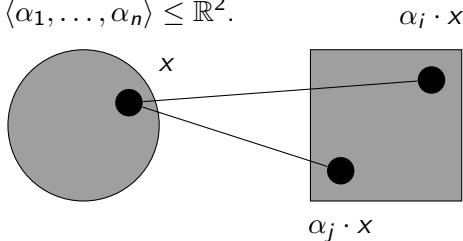
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- ▶ As before, the results amount to finding perfect matchings in graphs generated by certain translations.

$$\mathbb{Z}^n \cong \langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle \leq \mathbb{R}^2.$$



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Definition

Let Γ be a countable group. An **LCL** on Γ is a triple $\Pi = (\Lambda, \mathcal{W}, \mathcal{A})$, where

- ▶ Λ is a finite set (**labels**)
- ▶ $W \subset \Gamma$ is finite (**window**)
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- ▶ Λ is a finite set (**labels**)
 - ▶ $W \subset \Gamma$ is finite (**window**)
 - ▶ $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \Lambda^W$ (**allowed configurations**)
- ▶ If $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$ is a free action of Γ on a set X , a **Π -labeling** of X (also called a **solution** to Π) is a function $c : X \rightarrow \Lambda$ such that for all $x \in X$, the function $W \rightarrow \Lambda$ given by $\gamma \mapsto c(\gamma \cdot x)$ is in \mathcal{A} .

Examples

- ▶ Example 1: $\mathbb{Z} \curvearrowright S^1$, where $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ acts by rotation by n radians. $\Pi_k = (k, \{0, 1\}, \mathcal{A})$, where $\mathcal{A} = \{c \mid c(0) \neq c(1)\}$.

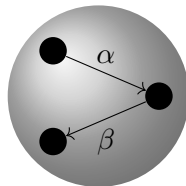
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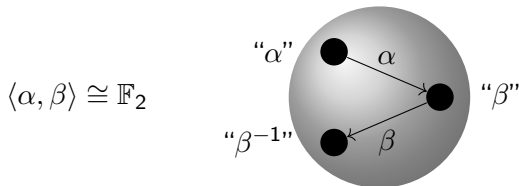
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- ▶ Example 2: $\mathbb{F}_2 \curvearrowright S^2$ (ignore the non-free part). Label each point with the rotation it will be moved by.

$$\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle \cong \mathbb{F}_2$$



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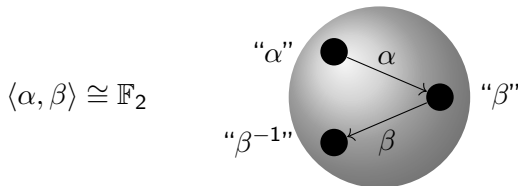
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- ▶ Example 3: Almost like example 2 but with $\mathbb{Z}^n \curvearrowright \mathbb{R}^2$ by translations.

Complexity classes in descriptive combinatorics

Given an LCL Π on Γ , we are interested in instances of the following sorts of questions:

- ▶ Let $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$ be a free Borel action on a standard Borel space. Does X admit a Borel Π -labeling?

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- ▶ Let $\Gamma \curvearrowright X$ be a free Borel action on a standard Borel space. Does X admit a Borel Π -labeling?
If the answer is always yes, we say $\Pi \in \text{BOREL}(\Gamma)$
- ▶ Let $\Gamma \curvearrowright (X, \mu)$ be a free Borel action on a standard probability space. Does X admit a μ -measurable Π -labeling?
If the answer is always yes, we say $\Pi \in \text{MEASURE}(\Gamma)$
- ▶ Let $\Gamma \curvearrowright (X, \tau)$ be a free Borel action on a Polish space. Does X admit a τ -Baire measurable Π -labeling?
If the answer is always yes, we say $\Pi \in \text{BAIRE}(\Gamma)$
- ▶ Let $\Gamma \curvearrowright (X, \tau)$ be a free continuous action on a **zero-dimensional** Polish space. Does X admit a continuous Π -labeling?
If the answer is always yes, we say $\Pi \in \text{CONTINUOUS}(\Gamma)$

Complexity classes for \mathbb{Z}

We have the following picture, due to Grebík-Rozhoň ('23)

2-coloring \in

Exists a solution on \mathbb{Z}

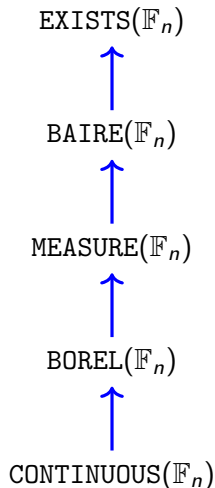


3-coloring \in

CONTINUOUS(\mathbb{Z}) = BOREL(\mathbb{Z}) =
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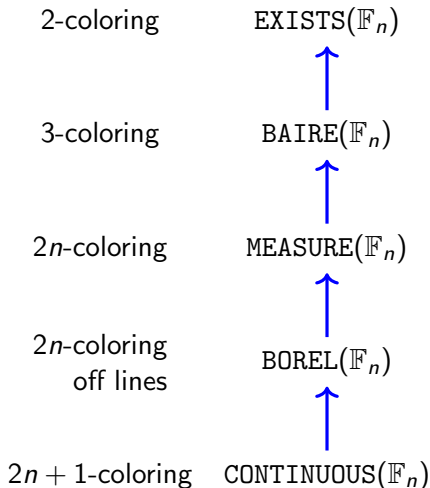
Complexity classes for \mathbb{F}_n ($n \geq 2$)

- ▶ We have this picture, combining results of KST ('99), CMT-D ('16), Bernshteyn, BCGGRV ('22), CM ('16), and Marks('16).
- ▶ All inclusions are strict.



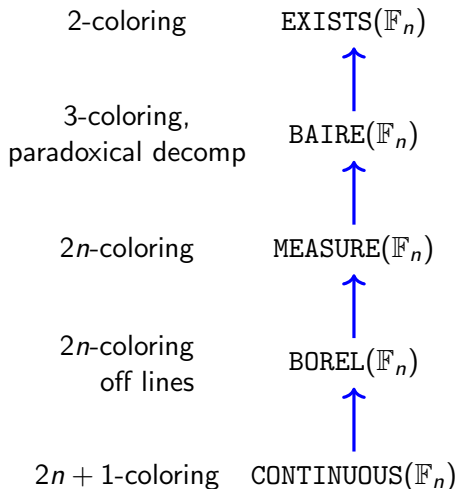
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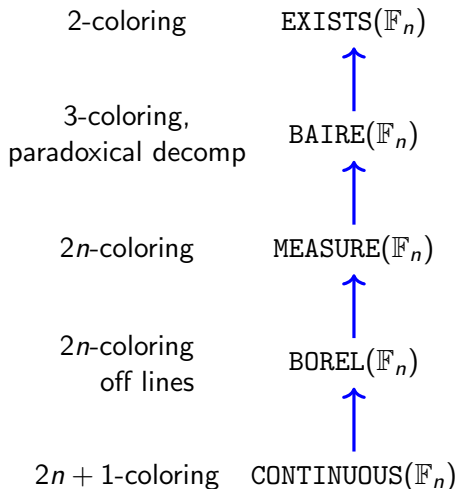
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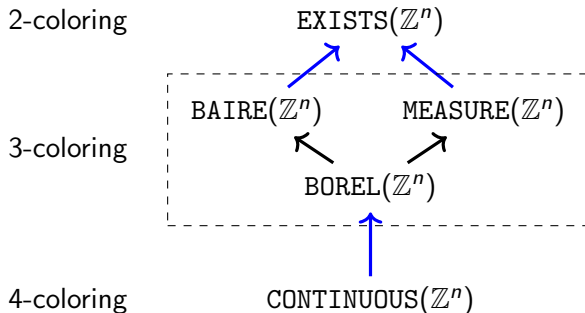


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- ▶ All inclusions are strict.
- ▶ Note the nontrivial relationship $\text{MEASURE}(\mathbb{F}_n) \subsetneq \text{BAIRE}(\mathbb{F}_n)$

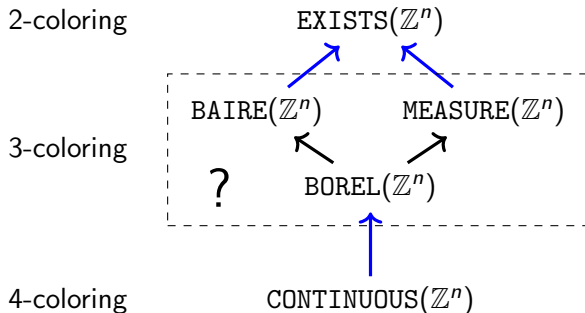


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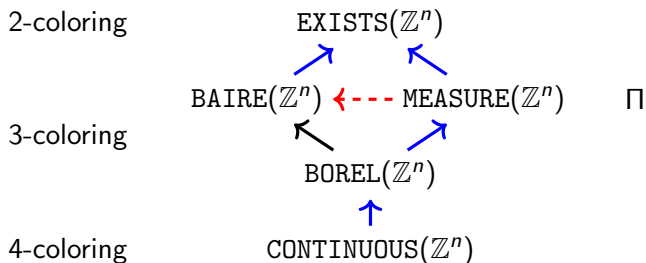


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Question (Grebík-Rozhoň '23)

Are any of the 3 complexity classes in this box distinct?

Main result

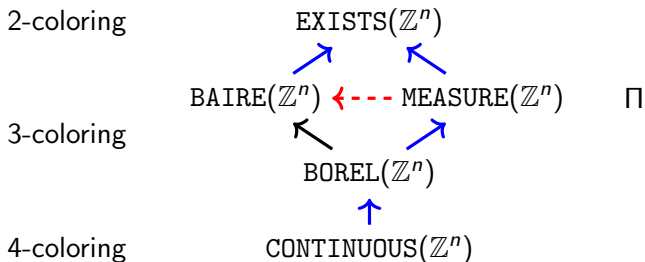


Theorem (Berlow-Bernshteyn-Lyons-W.)

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This is the first time this non-inclusion was shown for **any** group.

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- ▶ By diagonalization, it is easy to build a computable, 2-regular, acyclic graph with no computable 2-coloring.
- ▶ On the other hand, any such graph has a computable 3-coloring given by a greedy algorithm.

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Theorem (W. '24)

For any $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $\text{COMPUTABLE}(\mathbb{F}_n) = \text{BAIRE}(\mathbb{F}_n)$.

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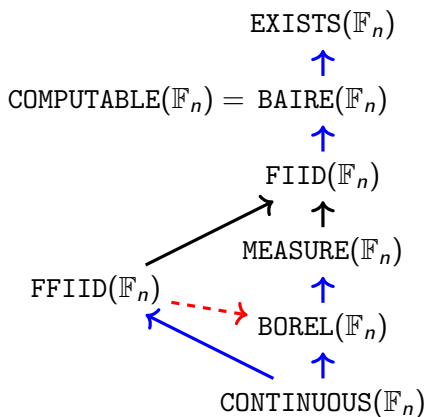
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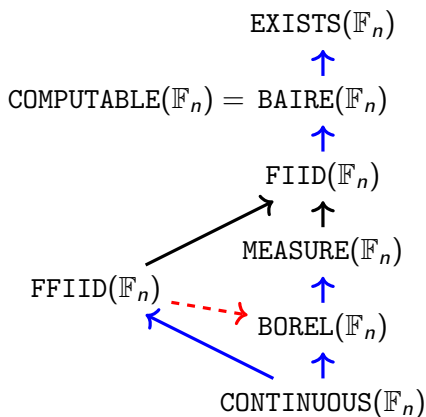
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Thus, $\text{MEASURE}(\Gamma) \subseteq \text{FIID}(\Gamma)$.
- ▶ We say $\Pi \in \text{FFIID}(\Gamma)$ if for almost every $x \in [0, 1]^\Gamma$, $c(x)$ depends on $x(g)$ for only finitely many $g \in \Gamma$. (*finitary factor*)

More complexity classes for \mathbb{F}_n ($n \geq 2$)



More complexity classes for \mathbb{F}_n ($n \geq 2$)

- The class $\text{FFIID}(\mathbb{F}_n)$ is poorly understood.

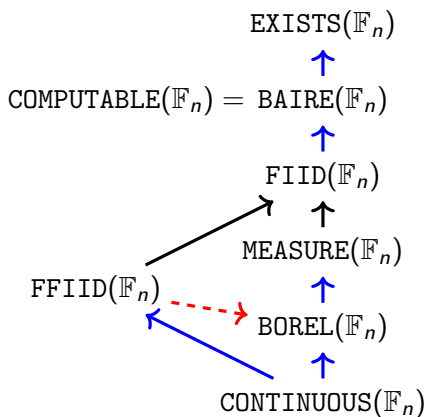


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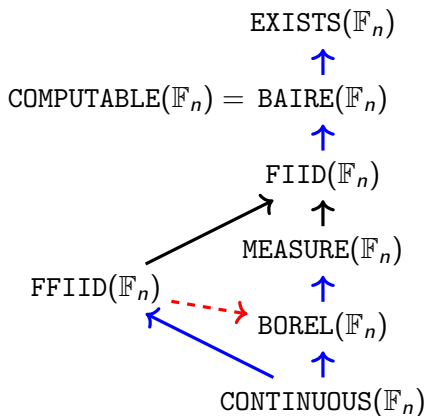
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Main result extended

Theorem (Berlow-Bernshteyn-Lyons-W.)

For every $n \geq 2$, there is an LCL Π on \mathbb{Z}^n such that:

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- ▶ Modifications of Π allow us to obtain even more separations...

Outline

Descriptive Combinatorics

Complexity classes of LCLs

Connections with other areas

Toast

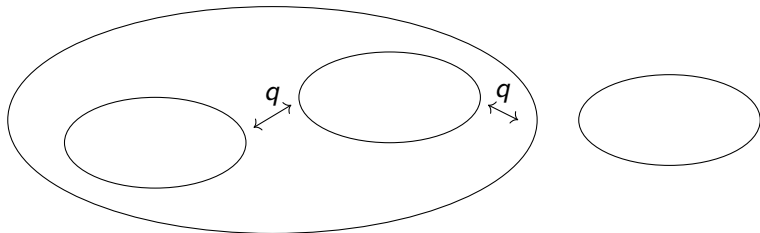
Toast

Fix a free action $\mathbb{Z}^n \curvearrowright X$. Let dist denote the path metric of the associated graph on X .

Definition (Gao-Jackson-Krohne-Seward)

Let $q \in \mathbb{N}^+$. A **q -toast** on X is a collection $\mathcal{T} \subseteq [X]^{<\infty}$ such that for all $C \neq D \in \mathcal{T}$, either

- ▶ $\text{dist}(C, D) > q$
- ▶ $\text{dist}(C, X \setminus D) > q$
- ▶ $\text{dist}(D, X \setminus C) > q$.



Toast and coloring

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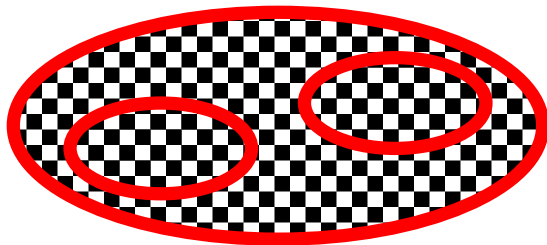
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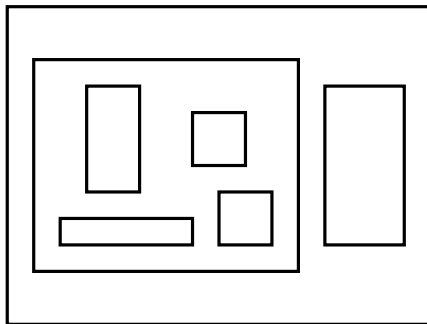
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Definition

A **rectangular toast** is a toast whose pieces are all rectangles.



Existence of rectangular toast

Proposition (Gao-Jackson-Krohne-Seward)

There exists a free Borel action $\mathbb{Z}^n \curvearrowright X$ Which does not admit a Borel complete rectangular 1-toast.

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Let $\mathbb{Z}^n \curvearrowright X$ be a free Borel action and $\mu \in P(X)$. For any q , X admits a Borel rectangular q -toast \mathcal{T} with $\mu(\bigcup \mathcal{T}) = 1$.

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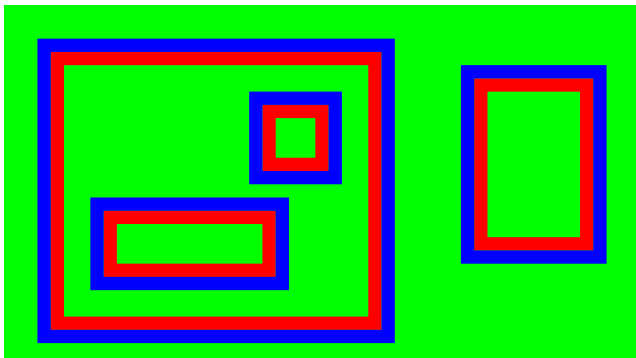
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Proposition

Any free computable action $\mathbb{Z}^n \curvearrowright \mathbb{N}$ admits a computable rectangular q -toast for any q .

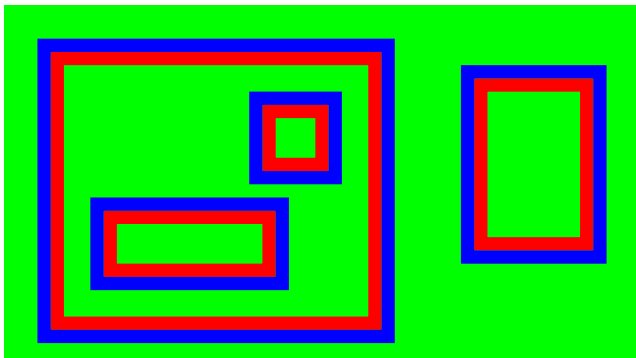
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Given a rectangular $10n$ -toast \mathcal{T} on X , let $f_{\mathcal{T}} : X \rightarrow \{R, B, G\}$ be defined as in the picture.



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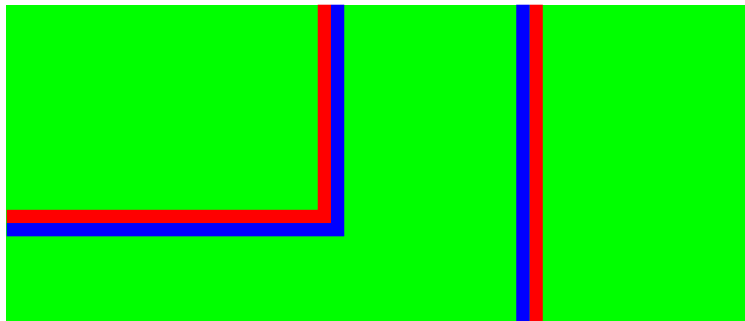
Let Π_{RT} be the LCL on \mathbb{Z}^n with window $[0, 10n]^n$ and labels $\{R, B, G\}$ whose valid configurations are those that look locally like $f_{\mathcal{T}}$ for some rectangular $10n$ -toast \mathcal{T} .

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If $f : X \rightarrow \{R, B, G\}$ is a Π_{RT} -labeling, we need not have $f = f_{\mathcal{T}}$ for some rectangular toast \mathcal{T} .

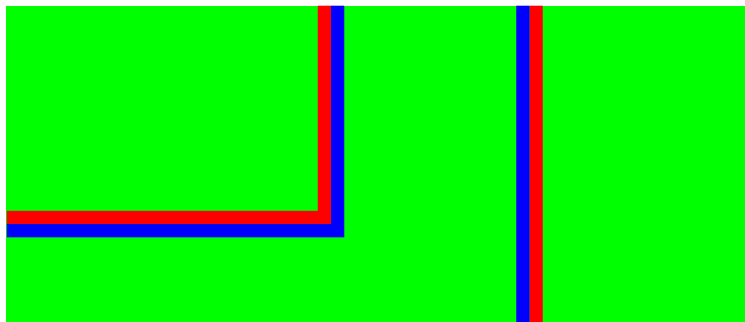
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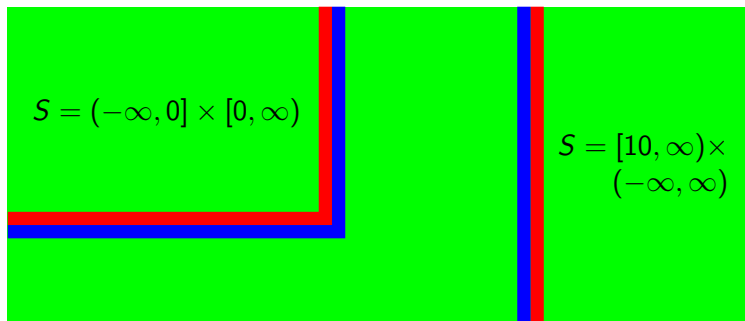


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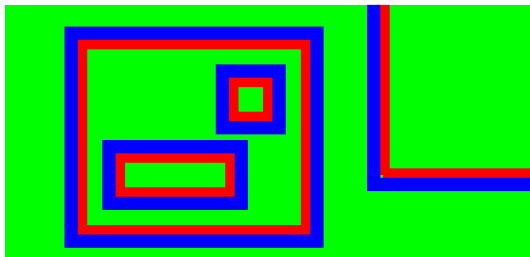
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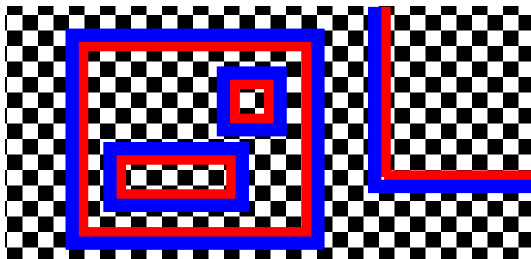


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Proof of the main result

Theorem (Berlow-Bernshteyn-Lyons-W.)

- ▶ $\Pi_{CRT} \in \text{MEASURE}(\mathbb{Z}^n)$
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- ▶ It is easy to use a definable rectangular toast to produce a similarly definable Π_{CRT} -labeling.

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 - ▶ First, this rules out “infinitary rectangles”.
 - ▶ Second, it forces the encoded toast to be complete.

Thanks for listening!

